Lack of trucks stymies Samaritan's Purse ops. PAGE 2
Early voting ends today, Monday. PAGE 3

Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

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2-week target pressed for PSS

By ERWIN ENCINARES
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REPORTER

Board of Education chair Marylou Ada is pressing the Public School System to resume classes within two weeks.

During Thursday's board meeting on Capital Hill, Ada is pushing the PSS management to get the schools ready and safe for students' use.

When later asked about the planned timeline for schools to open, Ada said, "We are now looking at two weeks."

"Once schools are ready to go, they would be opened," she added.

See PSS on Page 4

'NMI lost a founding father'

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Former House speaker Oscar C. Rasa died yesterday at the Commonwealth Health Center after battling a long illness. He was 71.

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres later directed that all CNMI and U.S. flags in all government offices and public buildings be flown at half-staff

See FATHER on Page 4

CUC: 5 of 9 feeders online

- 64 percent water production on Saipan
- 100 percent water production on Tinian

Working 18 days straight for utility restoration, the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. said in a statement yesterday that it has successfully brought up five out of nine feeders online,

See CUC on Page 4

Commonwealth Utilities Corp. division officials map out strategies to restore power, water, and wastewater services on Saipan. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Tinian to get $21M from divert airfield accord

By JON PEREZ
jon_perez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Years of meetings, negotiations, and back-and-forth talks between the CNMI and the U.S. Department of Defense ended last Friday, with both parties finally signing the purchase agreement for the Tinian divert airfield.

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres, Commonwealth Ports Authority officials led by acting board chair Tom Vil-

See TINIAN on Page 4

POST-TYPHOON GIVEAWAYS
Marianas Visitors Authority officials join the Japanese community in distributing giveaways to Saipan residents affected by Super Typhoon Yutu at the San Antonio basketball court last Saturday afternoon. From left are Mayuki Policare of Heart of Gold Dive Shop, MVA marketing manager Thomas Kim, Naoki Oura of Old B Bank, MVA managing director Chris A. Concepcion, Shunsuke Katagiri of Okadaya, Tadaaki Wakasugi of Aqua Gate Saipan Dive Shop, Mayumi Suzuki of Okadaya, Ruth Sablan, Hideaki Sawada, Roy Sablan, Nancy Florentino, Julie Arellano, Marina Estrada of Furusato Restaurant, and Kana Wakasugi of Aqua Gate Saipan Dive Shop. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

INSIDE

LOCAL
Mayor Joey Patrick San Nicolas reports that Tinian is on its way to recovery.
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LOCAL
Mount Carmel School receives donations that have helped the school in the wake of Yutu.
PAGE 15

LIFE & STYLE
Michelle Obama says she had a miscarriage and had fertility treatments to conceive.
PAGE 19

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Local

Lack of trucks stymies Samaritan's Purse ops

By ERWIN ENCINARES
erwin_encinares@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

A religious group that has sent a disaster assistance group to the CNMI to help Saipan and Tinian recover after the destruction of Super Typhoon Yutu expected operations to start as soon as this past weekend.

Samaritan's Purse, a Christian relief agency from North Carolina, ran into some unexpected snags such as the lack of trucks and heavy equipment vehicles, delaying their relief assistance operations on Saipan by a day, said Mark Langham, the team leader of the 20-man group.

"We are currently engaging local churches and the hospital to find which of the residents of Saipan suffered the most damage and are in need of the supplies that we have," Langham told *Saipan Tribune* Thursday last week.

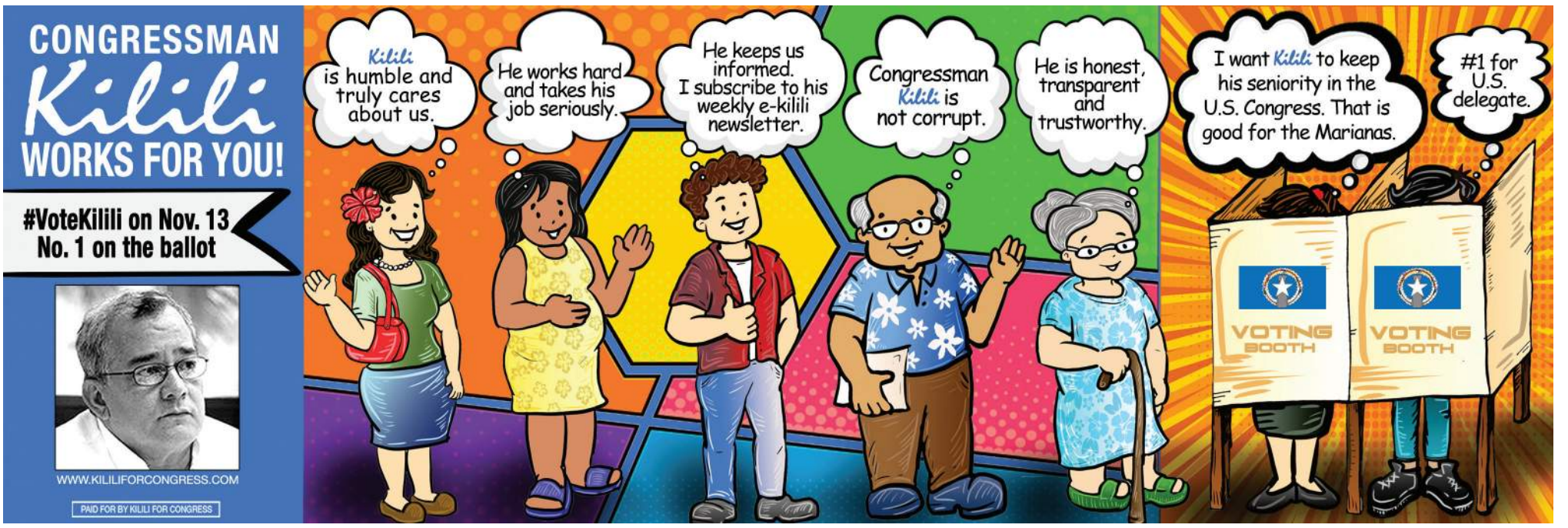
The group brought with them about 30 tons of emergency shelter material, solar lights, and water filtration units that could accommodate over 5,000 families. They have also been in touch with local churches on Tinian as well as other government agencies and organizations on Saipan, such as the American Red Cross-NMI Chapter and the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

"We should start our distributions in the next couple of days," he said, adding that the 20-man group has been working non-stop since touching down on Saipan last Tuesday afternoon.

Langham said the lack of hauling equipment has been a challenge. "…We had just were able to get the trucking to get [our supplies] to our warehouse. It has been a major issue on the island," he said. "That slowed things down a day, and it is just a matter of coordinated efforts to get the names of the people that would be beneficiaries to make sure there is no duplication with other organizations and go to the process of orderly distributions."

Langham did not disclose a specific distribution site but said, "We should be in full gear by next week, maybe even as early as this weekend. We will work seven days a week…for the duration of our time here because we know the need for it is urgent," he said, adding that medical clinics would also be set up.

The group arrived on Saipan last Nov. 6 aboard its own airplane.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Saipan

Early voting ends today, Monday

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The seven-day early voting ends today, Monday, with 4,757 in the CNMI having already cast their votes as of Saturday, according to the Commonwealth Election Commission yesterday.

CEC executive directors Julita A. Villagomez and administrative officer Kayla Igitol consider the 4,757 a large turnout, considering the situation on Saipan and Tinian after Super Typhoon Yutu's massive destruction.

From Nov. 6 to Nov. 10, a total of 4,152 voted at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center in Susupe for Saipan and Northern Islands, while only 130 voted at the Department of Public Safety on Tinian, and 475 at the Northern Marianas College on Rota.

» As of Saturday, 4,757 cast early votes in the CNMI; CEC considers number good turnout

Villagomez expects a lot of voters to troop to the designated polling places today to beat the early voting deadline.

Igitol encouraged voters to avail of early voting if they need to, especially on Tinian, Rota, and the Northern Islands. Come election day on Tuesday, voters will have to report to their polling places to cast their vote.

"So far everything has been smooth," Igitol said about the early voting.

Last Saturday, more persons voted on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota, compared to the previous three days.

Villagomez

As of last Oct. 5, there were 18,975 voters in the CNMI.

Igitol also disclosed that a technician from the Nebraska-based Election Systems and Software arrived Saturday to make sure that all five tabulating machines are ready to go for Tuesday's tabulation.

Igitol said some Guam election commission staff also arrived to assist them in preparing the tabulation machines.

Meanwhile, CEC election register clerk Robin Sablan said a chartered boat left Friday for the Northern Islands to get the 14 votes there, including one from a resident of Tanapag.

Sablan said the boat will return back to Saipan today, Monday.

The boat's passengers are two CEC officers, one officer from the Department of Public Safety, one representative of the Office of the Public Auditor, and two poll workers.

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CUC

From Page 1

with all feeder assessments complete and restoration of 64 percent of water production on Saipan and 100 percent water production on Tinian.

CUC executive director Gary Camacho said that restoration continues to prioritize critical facilities and water production and distribution.

"In the first week of restoration, we ensured that our shelter and hospitals were prioritized," said Camacho in the statement. "Our crews continue along primary lines and roads and we've already begun the emergency RFP process for additional equipment and assistance.

"I want to extend my appreciation to [Guam Power Authority] general manager John Benavente, and the GPA crew as well as Pohnpei, Kosrae, Palau, and Chuuk utilities for offering their assistance and partnership.

"I am very proud of our crews and personnel on Saipan and Tinian and I am very grateful for their hard work, dedication and resilience as we continue to restore the power and water system to the community," Camacho said.

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres is confident in CUC's power and water restoration efforts, with the aid of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the Federal Emergency Management Agency, and regional partnerships and assistance offered by Guam Power Authority, Pohnpei, Kosrae, and Palau utilities.

"While crews on Saipan continue pushing forward, we await more equipment, materials, and assistance for Tinian in the coming days. I remain hopeful that our community will soon return back to normalcy quicker than we've had in past typhoons and storms.

"We can see that Tinian was severely impacted as well as the southern portion of Saipan, which will take some time to recover. I extend my gratitude to the sacrifices of our power and water crews and to all their families during this time. With life-sustaining facilities up and running, and our business district starting to come back to life, I ask for our community continued patience as we work together to restore," Torres said.

Water restoration

According to Gary Byrd, CUC manager of Water and Wastewater Operations, approximately 56 percent of wells on Saipan are online islandwide and on island power or emergency generators.

Out of 15 tank service areas, the Agag area has five out of five wells online, As Matuis has 10 out of 10 wells online, Calhoun has three out of three wells online, Capital Hill has two out of four wells online, Dandan has five out of 14 wells online, Gualo Rai has three out of four wells online, Isley has 12 out of 31 wells online, Kagman has five out of 15 wells online, As Terlaje has 14 out of 20 wells online, Koblerville's direct well is not currently online, Papago has three out of four online, Puerto Rico has two out of two online, Rapagao has seven out of 11 online, San Vicente has three out of six online, and the airport has one out of one online.

With the southern part of the island severely impacted, resulting in several damaged pipes and leaks in the island's largest tank service area, Byrd said that the water division was able to bring up 11 more wells online over the weekend, with three of four Gualo Rai water wells up and running, adding to the water distribution in the southern part of the island and the overall production of the Isley Tank Service Area.

"The more wells we bring online in the South, the more volume we will have and we are getting a large percentage in the north which is used to supplement water distribution all the way to the south," Byrd said. "Once we get Kagman wells up and running, we will have more water production that can come down to the east side to Dandan and Capit[a]l Hill coming down the west side. The more pumps and wells we get online, the more production and the more water we get online, we can extend our service areas."

Byrd said that water service continues to stabilize as power to pumps and wells are restored and damage to pipes and major leaks are mitigated.

At this time, 75 out of 131 wells are on island power and emergency generators, producing 7.5 million gallons of water on Saipan.

Camacho noted that wastewater is also a priority in order to prevent sewage overflow, as sewage is being sent to treatment plants through lift stations on emergency power to protect the health of the public.

"CUC continues to perform extensive testing of water, testing several samples a day in service areas as well as filling stations. Water remains negative for bacterial contamination and we remind the community to practice caution with privately serviced wells or untreated water, which may not be safe for household use or consumption," Byrd said.

Byrd reiterated that the community must continue to report leaks to the CUC Call Center and keep water meters and hydrants free of storm debris to preserve water service and allow access for CUC personnel.

"I extend my appreciation to our water engineers, wastewater engineers, to Rota personnel, GPA, Primary Source, USDPH, and all our personnel in the field and to all their families for their patience and for making this all possible," Byrd said.

Power restoration

With a combined crew of 67 field personnel made up of engineers, surveyors, inspectors, safety officers, meter readers and line crew supported by 13 power and water personnel under the Operations Command Center, and additional 47 line crew, engineers and supervisors from Primary Source Electric and GPA, primary line repairs is ongoing and water wells through Feeder 1, 2, 3, 4 and 7 continue to be restored.

A longer version of this story is available at www. saipantribune.com

PSS

From Page 1

Interim PSS commissioner Glenn Muña was offered the permanent PSS chief position at that same meeting. He has yet to accept the offer, according to a BOE member Thursday.

Ada noted that PSS would not be opening all 20 schools at once because some campuses sustained more damage compared to others, but she stressed that PSS is "…not going to wait."

"We have seniors that have to graduate on time. We will not let them stay back for an additional quarter because…they did not meet [high school graduation requirements]," said Ada, reiterating the two-week target to open PSS schools.

She said any target date that's longer than that is too long.

Muña earlier noted would take about seven weeks for PSS to resume classes but "…seven weeks is just far too long," Ada said.

"I don't want to open schools sometime in January. Mt. Carmel School is already opening; everybody is opening except [PSS]… Let's not open in seven weeks. Let's open in one, two weeks," she told Muña.

He replied that the seven-week period is only a target date and that a school would open once it is ready.

Ada asserted that some schools, such as the Tinian Elementary School, are ready to re-open.

BOE Tinian representative Florine Hofschneider contradicted her, saying that Tinian is far from ready.

"Tinian is not ready. Teachers and administrators have [damaged] homes… Let's take everything into consideration, not just the students and the building," she said, adding that a student's mindset also plays into their ability to learn.

The BOE ultimately voted to lift the policy prohibiting double sessions, allowing for classes to catch up. The BOE also decided to either relocate or consolidate schools that are too damaged for immediate repair, such as the Hopwood Middle School, William S. Reyes Elementary School, and the Francisco M. Sablan Middle School, to name a few.

The specifics were not discussed during the board meeting, which halfway through, had their power cut off.

TINIAN

From Page 1

lagomez, Tinian officials led by Mayor Joey Patrick San Nicolas, Rep. Angel A. Demapan (R-Saipan), and Joint Region Marianas commander Rear Adm. Shoshana Chatfield were there to witness the signing.

Torres and Demapan were part of the CNMI panel that negotiated the deal a few years ago, the latter being the chairman of the House Committee of Federal and Foreign Affairs in the 19th CNMI Legislature.

In a later statement, Torres said that last Friday was a historic day for the people of Tinian and the entire CNMI. "After years of constructive conversations and intense negotiations, our leadership and the [CPA] officially signed the purchase agreement for the Tinian divert airfield."

"This was a long process, and it wasn't an idea that was brought yesterday. It went through different leaders, public hearings, and numerous conference calls. It's an agreement that has been in the works for several years and is the result of partnerships that we fostered over time."

He added that the lease agreement is worth $21.9 million and would directly benefit both the people of Tinian and the entire CNMI, and their military partners. "These partnerships are one of the reasons why we see our military directly assisting us with our recovery efforts now."

"The priority for the divert airfield was always about protecting the people of the CNMI and fulfilling the promises made in our Covenant agreement with the United States."

The money is also expected to be used to improve the facilities of the Tinian International Airport.

Torres said the people of Tinian should also be thankful for the committed leadership of San Nicolas, Sens. Francisco Borja (R-Tinian), Jude Hofschneider (R-Tinian), and Francisco Cruz (R-Tinian), CPA board member Kimberly King-Hinds, their Municipal Council, and Demapan, who joined him in negotiating the deal.

He also thanked DoD Deputy Assistant Secretary Allison Sands, Hope Marini, Chatfield, CPA executive director Chris Tenorio, and the entire CPA board for their hard work and dedication.

The project would result in the construction of a "divert" airfield on Tinian—essentially an alternative landing site for U.S. Air Force planes in case the Anderson Air Force Base in Guam is inaccessible due to war or calamities.

FATHER

From Page 1

from until Rasa's funeral.

Torres said Rasa's passing is a great loss to the CNMI since he was a protector of the Covenant. "Speaker Rasa was a great man and public servant of the Commonwealth. He was a true protector of our Covenant agreement with the United States and a true leader in every sense of the word," Torres said in a statement.

"He [was] a true leader and I am blessed to call him a friend and a mentor. My condolences are with Auntie Pat and the entire family. This is a great loss to the CNMI and I will surely miss him," Torres added.

Saipan and Northern Islands Municipal Council chair Luis John Castro said the Commonwealth lost one of its founding fathers, whom he described as a public servant even before the formation of the CNMI. "Speaker Rasa was a driving force in helping to pass our islands' first public laws."

"It is a tough loss…considering everything he did for our Commonwealth. He was a smart person who was always ready to answer your questions. He was a true wealth of information when it comes to the political history of the CNMI," Castro told *Saipan Tribune*.

"It is a sad loss for all of us who know him. We remember him as a person who was a knowledgeable resource of our political history, being the first House speaker of the CNMI Legislature."

He added that Rasa was also ready to give advice and counsel to all. "It was always wonderful to have a conversation with him. He always found the time to talk to you. And he was instrumental for a lot of our leaders that had come and gone."

Castro said that Rasa even served as an adviser to many past lawmakers and those who serve the CNMI today. "I personally thank him for the wisdom he imparted and the encouragement he gave to me over the last few months."

Castro offered his condolences, saying "our hearts go to his wife Pat, their children and grandchildren, and his entire family who grieve over the loss of their patriarch as we at the same time pay tribute to a strong voice for our islands and our people."

Rep. Angel A. Demapan (R-Saipan) said that Rasa was like an uncle to him and was instrumental in his entry to politics. "My family and I mourn the passing of former speaker [Rasa]. While he is family to me, he's always been more than an uncle."

"He was a big part of my political formation, having been a mentor and advis[e]r from the very first time I ran for public office and up until my current bid this election," said Demapan, who is hoping to become the CNMI's youngest non-voting delegate to U.S. Congress.

He added that Rasa helped him learn the terms of the Covenant, having been part of the negotiations back then. "As one of our Covenant negotiators, he instilled in me the imperative need to uphold the terms of the Covenant with the United States."

"In my career, he was always a reliable resource to review case laws and precedence before making an informed decision. I'm grateful to have been able to visit him once more yesterday before he left us. We will never forget him and all that he has done for us. Our hearts go out to Auntie Pat and their children during this difficult time."

Rasa earned his bachelor's degree in political science at the University of Guam and his master's degree in education in general social science with emphasis in government at the American University in Washington, D.C.

He holds lifetime instructor credentials in Government, Theory and Practice (local and international), and Public Services and Administration, and lifetime college administrator credentials to be college chief administrative officer for any community college in California.

He was also a senator of the 5th Marianas District Legislature in the Congress of Micronesia, elected to the first Constitutional Convention, served as Chief of the Professional Staff for two Legislatures, and a member of the Congress of Micronesia Joint Committee on Future Political Status for Micronesia.

Next on list: Clearing villages of typhoon debris

Several government agencies are working around the clock to rid villages of typhoon debris—for free. In return, the government just asks people to separate the waste.

Government agencies like the Saipan Mayor's Office, Department of Lands and Natural Resources, and the Department of Public Works have been going into villages to pick up all typhoon-related debris.

Government agencies will only be picking up typhoon-related debris such as green waste, tin, and lumber.

For those who want their typhoon-related debris picked up, they must first separate all their waste into three piles; green waste, tin, and lumber.

The piles must be placed about 10 feet from public easements. Government agencies are instructed not to enter private property, so if not placed along public easements, debris piled along private property will not be removed.

Other typhoon-related debris that are categorized as white goods will not be picked up. White goods are refrigerators, household appliances, water heaters, washers, dryers, and other electronic products.

According to the Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality, all white goods that will not be picked up by roving government agencies can be dropped off at either the Lower Base transfer station, or the As Gono staging area (located in Koblerville). BECQ will not be picking up white goods or household waste.

Commercial or industrial waste, medical waste, and construction materials are not being accepted in drop-off stations.

The Lower Base and As Gono staging area will be open from Nov. 12 to Dec. 2, from 8:30am to 4pm. ***(Kimberly A. Bautista)***

YUTU RELIEF efforts

Exchange your empty, damaged water bottles

The CNMI government will be exchanging full five-gallon water bottles for empty or damaged bottles today, Nov. 12, at the Koblerville Youth Center, starting at 10am. Residents must bring empty or damaged five-gallon water bottles to exchange for new bottles. There is a limit of one five-gallon water bottle per family. ***(PR)***

Collection of damaged transformers

In coordination with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. advises all residents that the collection of down and damaged transformers is ongoing on Saipan and Tinian.

Throughout this utility restoration period, CUC advises the public to refrain from handling damaged transformers and to keep children away from them for safety reasons. CUC said the material requires special handling and certain procedures for disposal. CUC advises residents to stay clear of the transformer units until the collection team has removed them. ***(PR)***

IPI quashes rumor

A rumor is circulating on social media about a senior executive of Imperial Pacific International, and the financial status of the company. The rumor is completely baseless and untrue. If in fact Imperial Pacific had or will be initiating bankruptcy proceedings, an announcement with the Hong Kong Stock Exchange would have been made. However, no announcement was made hence the rumor of the bankruptcy proceeding is completely false. Imperial Pacific Holdings has taken legal action against the original online source spreading slanderous fake news. ***(PR)***

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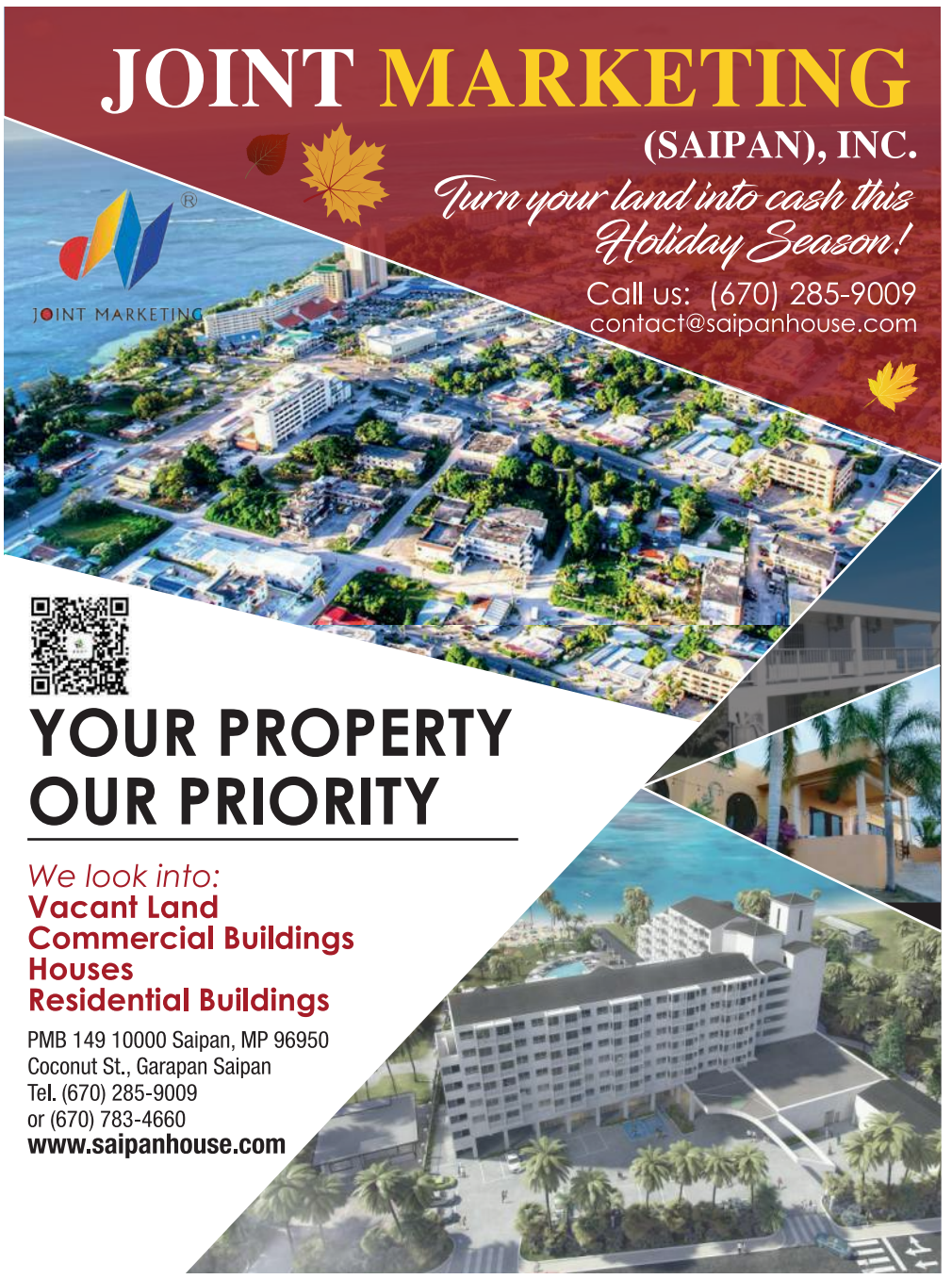

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Guam rallies to support CNMI women, children

HAGATNA, Guam—Deepak Dewan, president of Asia Pacific Wholesalers, former senator Carlotta Leon Guerrero, president of the Ayuda Foundation, and governor-elect Lou Leon Guerrero, who is a founding member of the Ayuda Foundation, are working together to ship 18 pallets of disposable diapers, baby wipes, and women's sanitary pads to the CNMI as Guam continues to answer the call for help after NMI suffered devastating losses in the wake of Super Typhoon Yutu. The total value of the donation is estimated to be $50,000.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

From left, Peter Aguon, general manager of Asia Pacific Wholesalers; Frank Atalig, SVP/CFO of Bank of Guam; Guam lieutenant governor-elect Joshua Tenorio; Guam governor-elect Lou Leon Guerrero; Kathy Palacios of the Lady Diann Torres Foundation; and Deepak Dewan, president and owner of Asia Pacific Wholesalers.

Asia Pacific Wholesalers was supposed to load the container of relief supplies yesterday, Veterans Day, and American President Lines will ship it on Wednesday, Nov. 14, 2018.

The Ayuda Foundation has been working tirelessly with local businesses and residents of Guam in providing help to its neighbors to the north who are facing an uncertain future in post-typhoon recovery.

The donations will be made to the Lady Diann Torres Foundation, a CNMI nonprofit organization founded by CNMI first lady Diann Torres to assist and empower women and CNMI families through cultural empowerment, education, and preservation.

"Post-recovery relief is a heavy burden for any community and rarely focuses on the needs of women and children, these diapers, baby wipes, and sanitary napkins will provide much-needed relief to families," said Lou Leon Guerrero.

"Our company stands ready to continue to assist in bringing much-needed support to our brothers and sisters in the NMI who are suffering. We've been through times like this before, and we've always come together as one to help one another. This time is no different. This is one archipelago, one Marianas," said Dewan.

"We are very thankful to Dewan and Asia Pacific Wholesalers, [former] senator Leon Guerrero and the Ayuda Foundation, and governor-elect Leon Guerrero for their compassion and commitment to assisting our families here in the Northern Mariana Islands. We look forward to working closely as we move forward in our recovery efforts to bring the Marianas closer together," said CNMI Gov. Ralph DLG Torres.

"Thank you and si yu'us ma'ase to our brothers and sisters in Guam for being with us during our time of need. Many families here need our help, and women and children in particular need all the support we can provide for them. This relief will go a long way for them as we recover and rebuild a stronger Marianas," said Diann Torres. ***(PR)***

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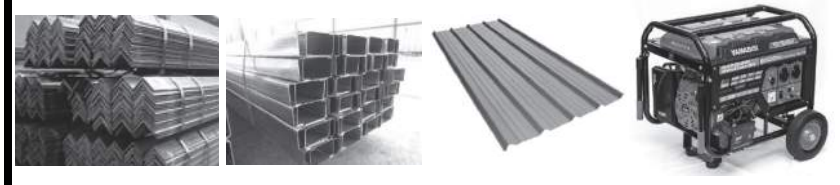

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3 Disaster Recovery Centers open

Effective Friday, No. 9, 2018, three Disaster Recovery Centers have opened on Saipan, Tinian, and Rota to assist residents who suffered damage and property loss due to Super Typhoon Yutu and Typhoon Mangkhut.

A DRC provides residents an opportunity to meet face-to-face with representatives from the Commonwealth, Federal Emergency Management Agency, and the U.S. Small Business Administration to answer questions about temporary housing, home repairs, replacement of damaged personal property, home and business recovery funding, and other disaster-related needs.

On, Saipan, the DRC will be at the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library, Monday to Sunday, from 8am to 5pm.

On Tinian, the DRC is at the Department of Commerce near the public gym in San Jose, Monday to Sunday, from 8am to 5pm, and on Rota, it will be at the Youth Center in downtown Sinapalo, Monday to Friday, from 9am to 6pm, and Saturday, from 10am to 4pm.

FEMA grants and SBA loans may be able to help cover survivors' uninsured or underinsured damaged property and destroyed essential items. If an applicant is insured, they are strongly encouraged to first file a claim with their insurance company, and then register for disaster assistance with FEMA. If applicants are referred to SBA for a loan application, it is very important that they follow through.

Eligible applicants can register for assistance by calling: (800) 621-3362, or applying online at: disasterassistance.gov. The TTY number is 1-800-462-7585 for those who are speech or hearing-impaired.

Survivors who are unable to register for assistance before visiting a DRC are welcome to use the center's phone banks

AMP re-opens

The American Memorial Park will re-open for visitors today, Nov. 12.

The Visitor Center, theater, Micro Beach pavilion, tennis courts, and memorials will once again welcome the community and guests. Until further notice, Visitor Center hours will be 9am to 4pm.

Most walking paths are open for daytime use only and are not lit at night. The tennis courts are also open for daytime use, but restrooms may be closed for repairs and hazards remain in that area. Visitors should remain vigilant and stay away from areas that are marked with cones or caution tape to allow park staff and chainsaw crews to work safely as they clear debris and mitigate hazards.

The park will continue to serve as a staging site for islandwide relief efforts. The Visitor Center parking lot, while open to the public, may also be limited to accommodate relief efforts at any time. Parking is also limited along Micro Beach Road to ensure public safety and space for large response vehicles. The concrete pads across from the Hyatt Regency Saipan (where the Taste of the Marianas was located) is a staging area for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and not available for picnicking.

"We appreciate your patience and understanding as we work to cleanup the park over the next several months," a park statement said. ***(PR)***

Bank of Guam defers credit card payments

Bank of Guam has implemented an automatic credit card payment deferment for CNMI Visa and MasterCard (personal and business) customers.

No application is necessary to avail of this benefit. For all CNMI credit card customers, payments for the months of November 2018 through January 2019 have been automatically deferred. The next payment will be due in February 2019. CNMI credit card customers wishing to continue to make payments as usual may do so.

For additional information, customers may contact Card Services at 671 472-5187. ***(PR)***

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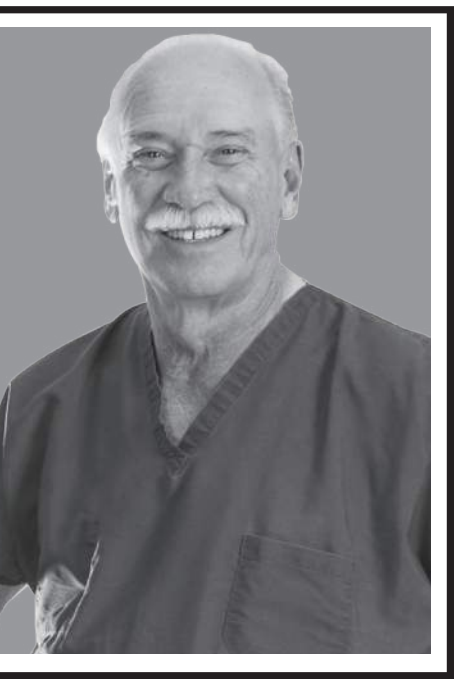

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Opinion

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
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EDITORIAL

After the California bar shooting: 'We need more Matt Wennerstroms'

This editorial will not mention the name of the man who allegedly opened fire in a country music bar in Thousand Oaks, Calif. Instead, we'd like readers to remember the name Matt Wennerstrom. The 20-year-old is a weekly regular at the Borderlilne Bar & Grill and says he thinks of other regulars there as family.

When the gunman started shooting on Wednesday night, Wennerstrom reacted swiftly. He gathered people behind a pool table and got them to crouch down: " ... There was probably six or seven of us dog-piling over the girls that were beneath us."

Then, when the gunman paused to reload, Wennerstrom seized his chance. He tossed a barstool through a window and, along with others, ushered about 30 to 35 people out. Then he and other rescuers leaped to safety.

"Bar stools go through windows," he told ABC News. "It works."

Wennerstrom is now reaping accolades. "We need more Matt Wennerstroms in the world," one Twitter user wrote. We second that.

Wennerstrom's exploits reminded us of other incidents in which ordinary people are thrust into extraordinary life-or-death circumstances. We don't mean to downplay the courage of Ventura County sheriff's Sgt. Ron Helus who responded to the first 911 calls. Helus, due to retire in the next year, was the first officer to enter the club. He was instantly cut down by gunfire.

Law enforcement officers, firefighters and other first responders train for these moments. They almost always can be counted on to run toward danger. Ordinary citizens like Wennerstrom generally—and understandably—head the other way.

We often have admired the reflexive heroism and grit of civilians who, under extreme pressure and with little time to think, choose not to retreat but to stay and help others. One memorable example: A sniper opened fire as country singer Jason Aldean performed at a Las Vegas music festival last year, sending concertgoers scrambling for cover. In the panic and chaos, strangers shielded one another from shrapnel, locals guided concertgoers to escape routes and a man bravely transported a wounded victim by wheelbarrow. These images stick in our minds.

In disasters large and small, some people respond fearlessly to an imminent threat. Remember how James Shaw Jr., a 29-year-old electrician, wrested a rifle from a gunman who had already fatally wounded four people at a Nashville Waffle House restaurant earlier this year? Shaw grabbed the scalding barrel of an AR-15 rifle as the shooter was reloading.

Wennerstrom wasn't the only civilian hero who helped others in the California bar shooting. Others did too. We hope to learn their names and more about how they reacted to an emergency. Months and years from now, many people will remember those killed, Sgt. Helus included. Let's also be sure to recall Matt Wennerstrom and the lives that weren't lost.

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Democrats should aim high

By NOAH SMITH
Bloomberg News

Noah Smith is a Bloomberg Opinion columnist. He was an assistant professor of finance at Stony Brook University, and he blogs at Noahpinion.

The U.S. government is divided once again. Democrats have the House of Representatives, while Republicans still hold the presidency and have deepened their control over the Senate. This means actual legislative breakthroughs are likely to be few and far between. But that doesn't mean it's useless to think about policy _ on the contrary, now is a perfect time for lawmakers on both sides of the aisle to lay out their big ideas, as a way of inspiring the country to think about the future. Here's a brief list of things that ought to be top priorities:

No. 1. Better universal health care

Obamacare was a compromise _ government would force people to buy health insurance, and help pay for it if necessary, but the private insurance industry would stay intact. But health care costs have continued to rise:

Medicare has been significantly better than private companies at controlling costs, probably because the government can use its bargaining power to hold down prices. Hence, the federal government should play a bigger role in the health-insurance system. The single-payer Medicare For All plan is popular on the left, but I favor a public option, along the lines of the Medicare X plan, meaning consumers could buy a public insurance plan if private markets come up short.

No. 2. Comprehensive immigration reform

In a rational world, immigration wouldn't be a pressing problem _ net illegal immigration has virtually vanished, despite the breathless headlines about caravans of migrants from Central America. And the education level of immigrants has been rising steadily:

But despite these developments, the immigration issue has polarized and embittered Americans in recent years, and it needs to be solved once and for all. A path to citizenship for undocumented immigrants _ which is favored by a large majority of Americans _ should be combined with a program to make the country's legal system more favorable to immigrants with skills. Canada's system, in which immigrants are evaluated for their job skills and education as well as family ties, seems like the perfect model to emulate.

No. 3. Minimum-wage increase

U.S. wages have been stagnating for a while:

Minimum-wage policies could potentially help change this dynamic, not just by forcing up pay, but by creating a culture of wage hikes and worker bargaining. A whole raft of economic evidence has shown that minimum wages are not as damaging to employment as was once believed. Experiments with $15 minimum wages in cities like Seattle have generally raised incomes while inflicting minimal harm on the labor market. The nation as a whole is overdue for a higher minimumwage, which now stands at $7.25 an hour and hasn't been raised since 2009. A comprehensive new federal minimum-wage policy should index the wage floor to inflation, to avoid the need for repeated future battles over additional increases. It should also allow states and cities some flexibility, so that rural areas with low productivity won't be forced to match the wages of big, highly productive cities like Seattle or San Francisco.

No. 4. Climate policy

The U.S. is no longer the indispensable nation in the fight against climate change _ that would be China, whose carbon emissions are now much higher. But that doesn't mean the U.S. should sit on its hands in the fight against global warming. A carbon tax would set a positive example for other countries. The government should also be pouring much more money into research and development of alternative-energy technologies, especially batteries and other power storage, as well as technologies that pull carbon out of the atmosphere. The funding of ARPA-E, the government agency charged with doing cutting-edge energy research, should be increased to at least $3 billion a year. And the

See DEMOCRATS on Next Page

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This is a time for everyday heroes

By ALLISON JASLOW
Special to Tribune News Service

Allison Jaslow is an Iraq War veteran, a dedicated public servant, and an advocate for the views and experiences of combat veterans and their families. A former Army captain, Jaslow is also a seasoned political and communications strategist, serving on the staff of several members of Congress, as a White House communications aide, and most recently as the Executive Director of Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans of America. She's term-member on the Council of Foreign Relations and serves on the Board of the Center for Law and Military Policy. She can be found on Twitter @jaslow.

"Not all heroes wear capes." This Veterans Day, I have a new spin on that popular saying: Not all American heroes wear camouflage.

I appreciate the high regard most Americans have for us veterans in the post-9/11 era, but the strength of our country depends on patriots of all kinds. Every citizen has to be invested in the success of our democracy, not just those in the warrior class. And I definitely didn't deploy to Iraq twice to defend this country, our Constitution, and our ideals abroad, just to watch us become vulnerable to tyranny here at home.

But that's exactly what I feel I'm witness to these days.

Our elections are being tampered with by both foreign and domestic actors. Our military is at times exploited to achieve political goals. And the very citizens we rely on to hold our government to account—reporters—are called the enemy.

This is a time where we can't just rely on the few, the proud, America. This is a time for everyday heroes. And it's far from the first time.

Before he became a civil rights icon, Rep. John Lewis was just the son of Alabama sharecroppers who enrolled at Fisk University in the late 1950s. Inspired by the Montgomery Bus Boycott, Lewis began to organize sit-ins at lunch counters while he was at college in Nashville to protest segregation in public accommodations. These protests were non-violent, but violation of the Jim Crow laws that ruled the South warranted arrest. Lewis' relentless pursuit of justice from that point on was sadly also rewarded with severe beatings at the hands of angry mobs.

Can you imagine, however, if John Lewis got to college and only cared about getting ahead?

The path Congressman Lewis chose to walk isn't for everyone. I sure am grateful that, he didn't let Jim Crow intimidate him and, as a teenager, cared more about our country moving forward than himself.

In 1971, Daniel Ellsberg was an obscure researcher at the RAND Corporation, but his place in history was solidified when the Pentagon Papers were published. In violation of his security clearance, and with the help of his children, Ellsberg photocopied thousands of pages of a classified study that made clear that the U.S. government deceived Congress and the American people about the case for going to war in Vietnam. He fully expected to go to prison for life for leaking the documents to the New York Times and Washington Post, but to him it was worth that consequence.

If Daniel Ellsberg didn't have the guts to follow his conscience, how long do you think it would have taken for us to know the truth?

58,220 Americans were killed in Vietnam. Ellsberg never did go to jail, but without his willingness to risk that possible fate, who knows how many more lives would have been lost. It's entirely possible that we'd be naive to this day about how the Johnson administration "systematically lied, not only to the public but also to Congress" about Vietnam.

Years before John Lewis began his fight for justice and Daniel Ellsberg solidified his place in our history books, a little known hero became skeptical of Joseph McCarthy's campaign against alleged communists in our government. The son of a Philadelphia grocery store owner, Murrey Marder was an up-and-coming reporter at the Washington Post when he got assigned to the so-called "Red Beat." A man of principle, he decided early on that he wasn't going to just blindly amplify McCarthy's theatrical pursuit of our enemies within. Rather, Marder was determined to fully scrutinize the senator's claims and followed his every word closely for four years.

Marder's diligent reporting of McCarthy's actions was in many ways also a sole pursuit. Countless other journalists bought into the senator's fear-mongering, but Marder saw through the charade when he claimed a ring of communist spies had infiltrated the Army during a field hearing at Ft. Monmouth, New Jersey. It turns out that there was no evidence to substantiate McCarthy's headline-making charges, and in a series of stories, Marder exposed the facts and effectively laid the groundwork for the 1954 congressional hearings that ultimately brought the senator down.

McCarthy very well could have met his fate in some other way, but one has to wonder how long it would have taken if a committed journalist didn't have the courage and determination to go after the truth.

The health of our nation has always depended on ordinary citizens with extraordinary courage. A fact that's worth remembering on not just one day, but every day.

This Veterans Day, look to us veterans not just as heroes, but as an example. It doesn't take a uniform to defend our Constitution or fight for a more perfect union.

In service to America

By BISHOP GARRISON
Special to Tribune News Service

Bishop Garrison (@BishopGarrison) is interim executive director of Truman Center for National Policy and the Truman National Security Project. He graduated from West Point in 2002 and served two deployments in Iraq in the Army. He served in national security positions in the Obama administration and served as deputy foreign policy adviser on the Clinton campaign in 2016.

On this Veterans Day, let us celebrate all those who serve admirably. From Des Moines to Brooklyn, Juneau to Jacksonville; whether they're black or white, Asian or Latinx, Jew or Gentile, woman or man or non-conforming, straight or LGBTQ, or citizen or non-resident, service knows no labels. Patriotism has no monolithic voice or singular face. Those who defend us are as diverse as our nation itself _ and that is a great strength of our nation.

America is a controversial work of art. It is an imperfect yet vivid masterpiece that requires constant restoration and upkeep. At times, when presented to the world, it is not always in the best light; its scratches, tears, blemishes and faults are all laid bare. Its history is fraught with brilliance and ignorance alike, as each has helped to shape its culture for better or worse.

And in this flawed work we are reminded that the varied shades are what make the piece priceless. We shouldn't be surprised that the greatest military the world has ever known would be forged by such a society. We should be honored by, proud of, and thankful for that fact. Just as iron alone is not as strong as when it is smelted with carbon and other materials to make steel, the same is true of our society; the strength and beauty within our citizenry represented in a variety of cultures who maintain deep and rich life experiences. Mixed metaphors aside, we have a diverse military precisely because we have a diverse society.

These varied lenses through which our men and women in uniform view the world helps them create intricate, unique solutions to nuanced problems. It allows them to provide key insights to their subordinates and superiors alike. And it drives them to seek out and find success when the situation seems otherwise devoid of it. Diversity as a tactical advantage is not limited to the military, either _ it is empirically proven to reduce groupthink, encourage innovation, and achieve more successful results across a variety of sectors. More perspectives working on a single problem will result in more solutions.

And of course, we inevitably seek out diversity in the military because the necessary centered strength and unflappable resolve is not found solely in any one group. The need for that quality among our armed forces means we must do the work to identify all the best among us who are willing and able to serve. This means we need the former football star from Arkansas in our ranks as much as we need the immigrant who speaks multiple languages or the combat engineer Ranger mother of two. They are all capable, they are all elite, and they are all valuable because they simply want the opportunity to serve this country without restriction and with dignity.

To be sure, our armed forces must be more than diverse. Each person who signs up to serve must have a passion and a drive _ something in their heart that tells their eyes and ears that in spite of what they see and hear, they must move forward to the danger. Despite every inclination to remain home, to remain safe, and to consider their well-being above anyone else's, they defy the natural tendency of self-preservation and move closer to fire and flame. But that type of resolve knows no single affinity group. It's found across legal statuses and genders and identity and sexuality and race and religion and socio-economic status and any other possible identifier you can attach to a human being in the modern era. All service members will have a wide variety of explanations for their service, but the fact remains that it is a life they chose. Regardless of why and from where they may have traveled, we should appreciate their choice and thank them for it.

At the end of the day, choosing to join the military does not make you any more courageous or patriotic than your civilian counterpart. After all, there are all types of service to our nation and community that should be lauded and celebrated every day. What military service does demonstrate, however, is a willingness _ even if just for the fleeting moment in which one joins _ to be a part of something much larger than yourself on behalf of your nation's defense. Even, if just for a day, that's worthy of celebration.

DEMOCRATS

From Page 8

fruits of these research efforts should be shared with China, India and other developing countries, to make sure they develop along a greener path than the U.S. did.

No. 5. Housing reform

Rent is getting less affordable in the U.S.:

The problem is especially acute in big cities like San Francisco, where much of the economic opportunity lies. In addition, the Great Recession wiped out the housing wealth of poor and middle-class Americans:

The solution is to push local governments to build more housing, and to help lower-income Americans buy more of that housing. My Bloomberg Opinion colleague Conor Sen and I recently called for a plan to combine density incentives with support for home purchases. Shortly after our article appeared, Senator Elizabeth Warren produced a plan along very similar lines. Democrats in Congress should take up Warren's plan, and the housing shortage more generally.

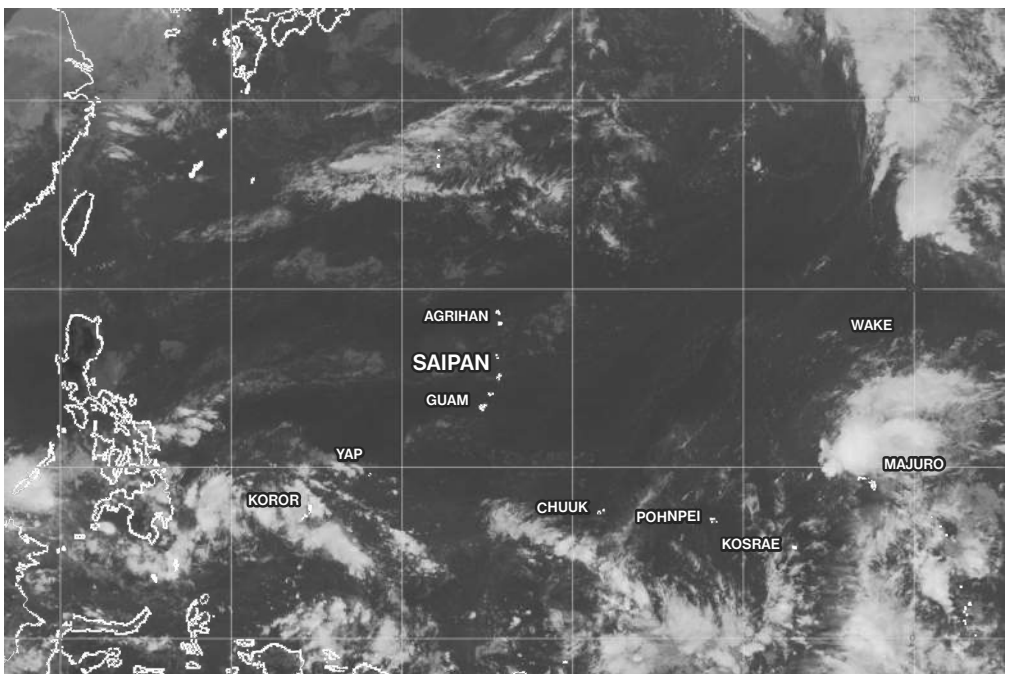
President Donald Trump isn't likely to let any of these ideas be written into law. But pushing concrete legislation on these five points would help inspire the country with the promise of real solutions and a better tomorrow. Congress should get the ball rolling now.

The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN

TODAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
Mostly sunny with a slight chance of showers. East winds 10 to 15 mph.	Partly cloudy with a slight chance of showers.	Partly cloudy with a slight chance of showers.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.	Mostly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲90° ▼78°	▲90° ▼78°	▲90° ▼78°	▲90° ▼78°	▲90° ▼78°

YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE



PICTURE TIME: 8:05 AM, SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 2018
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Weather is still quiet in the region, with only isolated showers southeast of Guam that are moving away to the WSW. Winds are moderate northeasterly, and combined seas are near 5 ft at the Ipan buoy. The latest sounding shows very dry air above 5000 feet.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

MICRONESIA	▲ ▼ °F	
Guam and Rota	Mostly Sunny	87° / 79°
Palau	Thunderstorms	86° / 78°
Yap	Thunderstorms	87° / 80°
Chuuk	Partly Cloudy	86° / 80°
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	88° / 76°
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	88° / 76°
Majuro	Thunderstorms	87° / 81°

AROUND THE GLOBE	▲ ▼ °F	
Auckland	Showers	66° / 55°
Beijing	Sunny	57° / 36°
Hong Kong	Cloudy	79° / 72°
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	82° / 73°
London	Cloudy	55° / 46°
Los Angeles	Sunny	77° / 51°
Manila	Partly Cloudy	91° / 79°
Melbourne	Rain	77° / 59°
Miami	Mostly Sunny	83° / 77°
New York	Partly Cloudy	48° / 43°
Osaka	Mostly Sunny	63° / 50°
Paris	Showers	63° / 46°
Busan	Mostly Sunny	63° / 45°
Rome	Mostly Sunny	70° / 52°
Salem	Showers	55° / 44°
San Francisco	Mostly Sunny	68° / 49°
Seoul	Mostly Sunny	57° / 34°
Tokyo	Partly Cloudy	61° / 48°
Washington, DC	Showers	50° / 45°

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TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY	FEET	
4:28 AM	LOW TIDE	-0.17
11:38 AM	HIGH TIDE	1.81
5:21 PM	LOW TIDE	1.22
9:34 PM	HIGH TIDE	1.63

DAY	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Today	6:17 AM	5:44 PM
Tuesday	6:17 AM	5:44 PM
Wednesday	6:18 AM	5:44 PM
Thursday	6:18 AM	5:44 PM
Friday	6:19 AM	5:44 PM

DAY	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	10:01 AM	9:34 PM	-
Tuesday	10:50 AM	10:24 PM	-
Wednesday	11:36 AM	11:14 PM	-
Thursday	12:20 AM	-	-
Friday	-	12:03 AM	1:01 PM

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF NOVEMBER 1, 2018

SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)

UA117	9:15am	9:55am	Daily
UA105	6:25pm	7:05pm	2, 4

SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)

– temporarily suspended

7C3451	3:15am	6:30am	Daily

SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)

– ALL FLIGHTS temporarily suspended

TW9308	1:10am	4:10am	3, 4
TW308	1:35am	5:20am	Daily
OZ626	2:20am	6:00am	1
OZ626	2:50am	6:40am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
TW9308	3:20am	6:30am	2
TW9308	3:25am	6:30am	5
7C3403	4:35am	8:25am	Daily
7C3401	4:30pm	8:25pm	Daily

SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)

– temporarily suspended

3U8648	6:10am	8:30am	1, 4, 5, 7

SAIPAN-HANGZHOU (HGH)

– temporarily suspended

JD396	7:30am	11:00am	1
JD396	4:50pm	7:55pm	4

SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)

– temporarily suspended

3U8646	4:20am	7:35am	2, 6

SAIPAN-BEIJING (PEK)

– temporarily suspended

MU764	1:30am	6:00am	3, 5, 7

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

UA117/183	9:15am	9:40pm	2, 5 via GUM
UA117/183	9:15am	9:50pm	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM
UA117/193	9:15am	11:50pm	2, 5 via GUM-ROR
UA105/183	6:25pm	9:50pm	2, 4 via GUM

SAIPAN-HONG KONG (HKG)

UA117/159	9:15am	11:00pm	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via GUM
UA105/159	6:25pm	11:00pm	2, 4 via GUM

Temporarily suspended:

HX077	2:00am	5:00am	1, 4
UO43	5:40am	8:40am	1, 3, 5, 7

GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN

UA174	7:30am	8:11am	Daily
UA104	4:50pm	5:31pm	2, 4

BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN

– temporarily suspended

7C3452	9:35pm	2:00am+1	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
7C3452	10:05pm	2:00am+1	1

SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN

– ALL FLIGHTS temporarily suspended

7C3402	10:10am	3:30pm	Daily
TW9307	6:30pm	12:10am+1	2, 3
TW307	7:00pm	12:35am+1	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7
TW307	7:05pm	12:35am+1	1
OZ625	7:40pm	1:00am+1	7
OZ625	8:20pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6
TW9307	9:00pm	2:20am+1	1
TW9307	9:05pm	2:25am+1	4
7C3404	10:10pm	3:40am+1	Daily

SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN

– temporarily suspended

3U8647	10:30pm	4:30am+1	3, 4, 6, 7

HANGZHOU (HGH)-SAIPAN

– temporarily suspended

JD395	8:05am	3:30pm	4
JD395	9:35pm	5:00am+1	7

GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN

– temporarily suspended

3U8645	8:20pm	2:50am+1	1, 5

BEIJING (PEK)-SAIPAN

– temporarily suspended

MU763	4:55pm	12:30am+1	2, 4, 6

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN

UA182/174	12:40am	8:11am+1	3, 6 via GUM
PR110/UA174	10:05pm	8:11am+1	Daily via GUM
UA192/174	10:30pm	8:11am+1	2, 5 via GUM-ROR
UA184/174	10:55pm	8:11am+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7 via GUM

HONG KONG (HKG)-SAIPAN

UA116/174	11:45pm	8:11am+1	2, 4, 6 via GUM
UA116/174	11:55pm	8:11am+1	1, 3, 5 via GUM

Temporarily suspended:

HX07	5:15pm	12:15am+1	3, 7
UO42	6:50pm	1:45am+1	7
UO42	9:30pm	4:25am+1	2, 4, 6

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); 3U Sichuan Airlines, 7C Jeju Air, DL Delta Airlines, JD Beijing Capital, UO HK Express, HX HongKong Airlines, MU China Eastern, OZ Asiana Airlines, TW t'way Air, UA United Airlines, PR PAL Express; ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. *(The* Saipan Tribune *is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)*

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

SAIPAN TO ROTA

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
1301	7:30AM	8:00AM	Daily
1302	11:30AM	12:00PM	Daily
1303	4:00PM	4:30PM	Daily

ROTA TO SAIPAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
3101	8:15AM	8:45AM	Daily
3102	1:45PM	2:15PM	Daily
3103	4:45PM	5:15PM	Daily

ROTA TO GUAM

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
3401	12:15PM	12:45PM	Daily

GUAM TO ROTA

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
4301	1:00PM	1:30PM	Daily

SAIPAN TO TINIAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
1201	7:00AM	7:15AM	Daily
1202	8:00AM	8:15AM	Daily
1203	9:00AM	9:15AM	Daily
1204	10:00AM	10:15AM	Daily
1205	11:00AM	11:15AM	Daily
1206	12:00PM	12:15PM	Daily
1207	1:00PM	1:15PM	Daily
1208	2:00PM	2:15PM	Daily
1209	3:00PM	3:15PM	Daily
1210	4:00PM	4:15PM	Daily
1211	5:00PM	5:15PM	Daily
1212	6:00PM	6:15PM	Daily

TINIAN TO SAIPAN

FLIGHT #	DEPARTURE	ARRIVAL	FREQUENCY
2102	7:30AM	7:45AM	Daily
2103	8:30AM	8:45AM	Daily
2104	9:30AM	9:45AM	Daily
2105	10:30AM	10:45AM	Daily
2106	11:30AM	11:45AM	Daily
2107	12:30PM	12:45PM	Daily
2108	1:30PM	1:45PM	Daily
2109	2:30PM	2:45PM	Daily
2110	3:30PM	3:45PM	Daily
2111	4:30PM	4:45PM	Daily
2112	5:30PM	5:45PM	Daily
2113	6:30PM	6:45PM	Daily

FNS approves disaster food assistance for households

Gov. Ralph DLG Torres said Saturday that the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Food and Nutrition Services approved his request to operate the Emergency Food Assistance for Victims of Disaster, pursuant to Part XI and Exhibit D of the Nutrition Assistance Program manual of operation, due to impacts from Super Typhoon Yutu.

This emergency food assistance program is referred to as the Disaster NAP, or D-NAP. The program is regardless of citizenship and every impacted household may apply. The estimated total cost for disaster benefits is $8,562,834.

"Since the beginning of the storm, we prioritized the safety and wellbeing of our families on both islands so that they receive the help they need. We got approved for $8.6 million for disaster benefits for Saipan and Tinian households and disaster supplements for ongoing NAP households," Torres said.

"I want to thank [Department of Community and Cultural Affairs] Secretary Robert Hunter, NAP administrator Walter Macaranas, and the hardworking staff at the DCCA and NAP offices for pushing this through and for always leading the way in getting food assistance for our families, especially during this recovery."

Every household on Saipan, Tinian, and the Northern Islands may apply for disaster food assistance, regardless of citizenship. Households must apply and be determined for eligibility in order to avail of disaster food assistance. Benefits will be determined by household composition and an additional income eligibility determination will be made for households that experienced food loss or a reduction/termination of income as a result of the disaster.

"We are tremendously happy...," said Hunter. "This assistance will provide a food benefit to every eligible impacted household on Saipan and Tinian as well as additional assistance to NAP households. We encourage households to bring some form of photo ID, income documentation like pay stubs or bank statements, and receipts for disaster-related expenses, medical, and, of course, food loss such as spoiled food that was lost because of a lack of power. If you don't have the documentation, NAP staff will have an affidavit at the sites in the case any documentation is unavailable."

D-NAP application periods

The D-NAP application periods and their hours of operation will be as follows:

Tinian

Nov. 15 – Nov. 21, 2018
Tinian Public Gym in San Jose
8am – 2pm

Saipan

Nov. 25 – Dec. 1, 2018
CNMI NAP office in As Lito, Saipan
8am – 6pm

According to Macaranas the Emergency Food Assistance distribution will be divided into two programs: D-NAP assistance and Supplemental Disaster Assistance.

"D-NAP is primarily for non-NAP households which includes individuals who were residing on Saipan and Tinian at the time Super Typhoon Yutu struck the islands on Oct. 24, 2018. This means that any resident regardless of citizenship may apply for disaster assistance," Macaranas said.

Documentations will be required as part of the verification process. NAP will be requesting for documentation such photo identification of the applicant, birth certificates or passports to verify household composition; billings such as telephone, utility, cable, etc. to verify residency; pay stubs to verify income; recent bank statements to verify resources; and expense receipts to verify disaster-related expenses. If the D-NAP applicant does not have the documentation to provide proof of the required verifications, the applicant must use the NAP-provided affidavit to declare such information.

Coupons used for the D-NAP and supplements will be effective through Jan. 31, 2019.

Local coupons

FNS approves the governor's request to lift the local coupons restriction and allow the local coupons to be used to purchase imported eligible foods through Dec. 31, 2018. This flexibility only applies to eligible applicants from Saipan, Tinian, and the Northern Islands. DCCA will issue a written authorization to each authorized retailer on Saipan and Tinian allowing these items for purchase with disaster or supplemental benefits.

Hot foods

FNS approves the governor's request to allow NAP and D-NAP households the ability to purchase hot foods and hot food items for immediate consumption with NAP benefits through Dec. 31, 2018. ***(PR)***

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TORRES, Ralph Deleon Guerrero
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PALACIOS, Arnold Indalecio
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DEMAPAN, Angel Aldan
FOR US DELEGATE

APATANG, David Mundo
FOR MAYOR OF SAIPAN

ALDAN, Edwin Palacios
FOR MAYOR OF TINIAN AND AGUIGUAN

ATALIG, Efraim Manglona
FOR MAYOR OF ROTA

KAIPAT, Diego Litulumar
FOR MAYOR OF NORTHERN ISLANDS

FIRST SENATORIAL DISTRICT
HOCOG, Victor Borja
SANTOS, Felix Mundo

SECOND SENATORIAL DISTRICT
CRUZ, Francisco Quichocho
HOFSCHNEIDER, Jude Untalan

THIRD SENATORIAL DISTRICT
DELEON GUERRERO, Joseph Pinaula
QUITUGUA, Justo Songao

PRECINCT 1
CASTRO, Luis John Deleon Guerrero
GUERRERO, Joseph Leepan Tenorio
SABLAN, Gregorio Jr. Muna
MARATITA, Janet Ulloa
BENAVENTE, Roman Cepeda
PALACIOS, Raymond Ulloa

PRECINCT 2
SABLAN, John Paul Palacios
DEMAPAN, Rafael Sablan

PRECINCT 3
BLANCO, Ivan Alafanso
ATTAO, Blas Jonathan "BJ" Tenorio
ITIBUS, Jose Ilo
DELA CRUZ, Francisco Santos
YUMUL, Ralph Naraja

PRECINCT 4
IGITOL, Alice Santos
CAMACHO, Joel Castro

PRECINCT 5
DELEON GUERRERO, Lorenzo Iglecias
CAMACHO, Joel Castro

PRECINCT 6
BORJA, Antonio San Nicolas

PRECINCT 7
MARATITA, Glenn Lizama

TOGETHER, WE HAVE MADE GREAT PROGRESS

- The fastest economic growth in the country in 2016 and 2017
- Continue to pay 100% of our retirees' pensions
- The first Section 902 report approved by the White House and sent to Congress
- Enacted the NMI US Workforce Act of 2018
- 42% increase in average hourly wages from $8.71 to $12.38 within two years
- 2,560 new businesses opening up shop since 2015
- Increased US workforce by 27%
- Decreased unemployment by 2% in one year
- Committed $29.3 million payment for long-overdue land compensation
- Reduced rime rate by 65.3% since 2013
- Reduced drug crimes by 86% over the last two years
- Reduced deficit by more than half-- 53.7 % -- in just the last year alone
- Decreased long-term debt by almost $10 million
- Appropriated $142.3 million to our healthcare system
- Appropriated $209.6 million to our education systems
- Appropriated $6.5 million to US workforce development programs such as NMTI

UN FAMILIA, UN GUINAIYA, TIPIYEEW

TOMORROW, NOVEMBER 13TH
PROGRESS IS ON THE BALLOT

TORRES PALACIOS

Thank you for your support,
we humbly ask for your vote.

PAID FOR BY THE CNMI REPUBLICAN PARTY | RUFIN S. INOS, TREASURER

Longterm recovery for Tinian begins

By ERWIN ENCINARES
erwin_encinares@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

With water already restored to all of Tinian, Tinian Mayor Joey Patrick San Nicolas reports that his office has already started the long-term recovery effort to restore the island.

San Nicolas

The Commonwealth Utilities Corp. says in its latest report that water production is now at 100 percent on Tinian.

Separately, San Nicolas noted in his Week 2 status update that gas is almost fully restored to the island and that public services have started to stabilize.

"…We are slowly transitioning from immediate relief toward long-term community restoration," he said, as he announced shuttle services have been discontinued and public portable toilets have been pulled back.

» Tinian businesses resume regular operations

Food and water distribution continues at the Tinian Gymnasium, including the distribution of hot meals, humanitarian daily rations, and bottled water for residents. The American Red Cross offers hot meals for lunch and dinner, which are supplemented by humanitarian daily rations supplied by the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

Potable water is available at the Jones Beach reverse osmosis system from 8am to 5pm and the Maui Well Pump Station from 2pm to 5pm.

While the distributions for basic needs continue, San Nicolas noted that his office has begun debris cleanup.

"Using municipal resources, our teams will dispose of lumber, tin, and green waste for residents who have properly sorted and placed their waste along public easements. Debris removal instructions are available to the public via the Tinian Mayor's Office Facebook page and the weekly Gasetan Taotao Tinian: Recovery Edition," said San Nicolas.

To address shelter concerns, San Nicolas noted that over 80 tents have been erected for Tinian resident's temporary shelters.

The tents were erected through the CNMI Tenting Program—a collaboration among the CNMI government, the American Red Cross, and the U.S. Department of Defense.

"Week 2 post-typhoon showed a steady stream of activity built on the momentum from our immediate response to Super Typhoon Yutu. We aim to continue this trend in the coming weeks as we transition into the long-term restoration of our infrastructure, our homes, and our community," said San Nicolas.

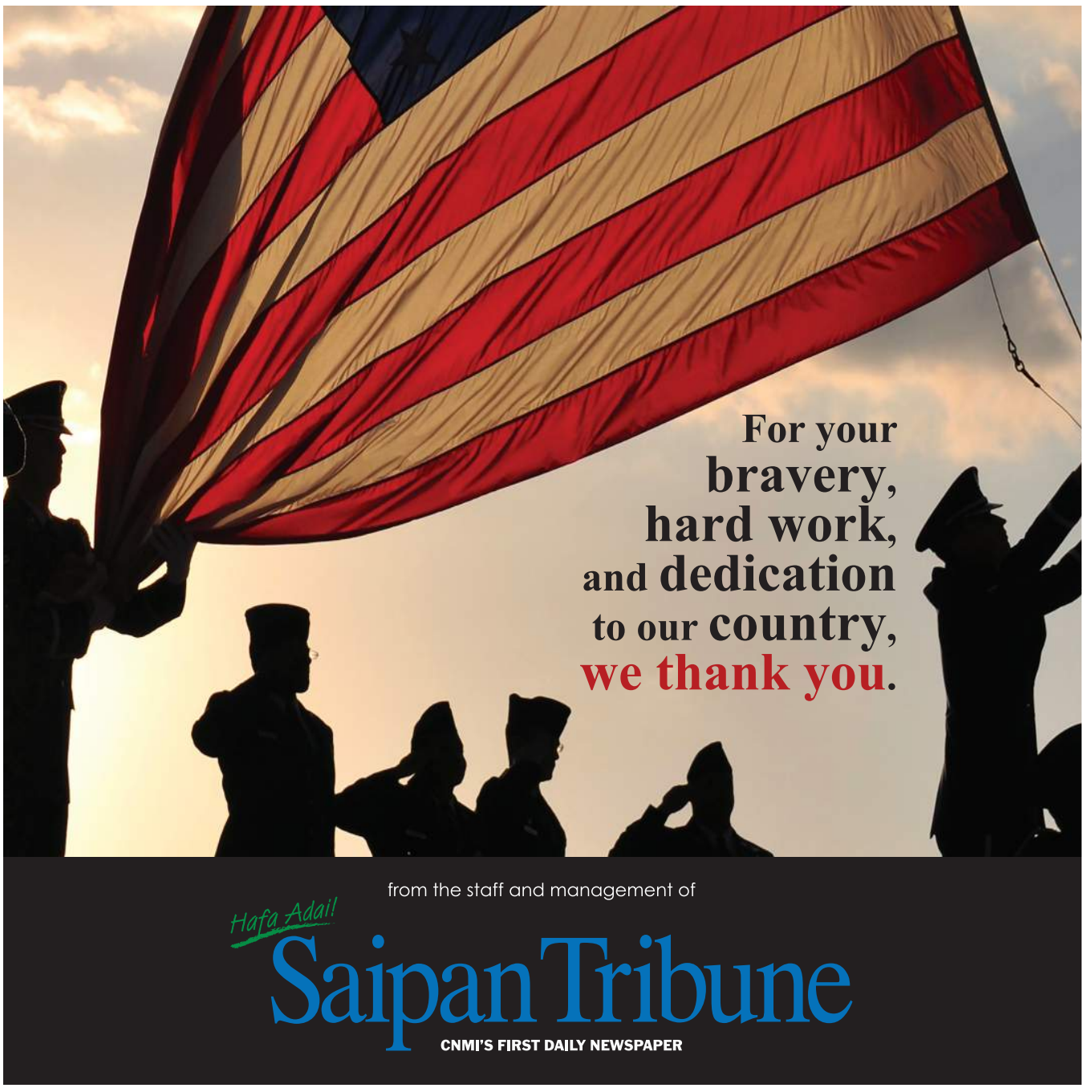
Tinian power feeders remain offline as of Nov. 6, 2018, but power is online at the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. Tinian facility from 6am to 6pm.

San Nicolas noted that a CUC partial power assessment reports damage to 797 power poles, 105 transformers, and 507,015 linear feet of conductors. CUC executive director Gary Camacho and a representative from Primary Source Electric visited San Nicolas' office last Wednesday.

Only one gas station remains open on Tinian, the Tinian Fuel Services. San Nicolas noted that with the efforts of Tinian municipal vice chair Phillip Mendiola-Long, Mobil Oil Marianas would be offering a discounted price of $5.20 per gallon as opposed to the regular $5.70 per gallon for unleaded fuel.

Tinian businesses, according to San Nicolas, have already started to resume regular operations toward the end of the week, including supermarkets, transportation services, and shipping companies. Hotel rooms and laundromats, San Nicolas said, are slowly coming back online while local restaurants operate on a limited basis.

Both Bank of Guam and Bank of Saipan are operating on their regular schedules, he noted.



‘WE ARE DFS’ CLEANUP CREW

Over 20 members of DFS Saipan Ltd.’s “We are DFS” Cleanup Crew spent several hours last week cleaning classrooms at Mount Carmel School to help the school prepare to reopen in the aftermath of Super Typhoon Yutu. DFS division president Marian Aldan-Pierce was on hand for the team, which was headed by DFS assistant general manager Vicente “Ben” Babauta, who also leads the school’s board of directors as its chairman. In addition to cleaning, the team donated all its cleaning tools to the school.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

RELIEF CONTRIBUTIONS

Mount Carmel School expressed its appreciation for the support of many individuals and organizations that have helped the school in the aftermath of Super Typhoon Yutu. James Matsumoto, shown here to the right of school president Galvin Deleon Guerrero, area manager for Express Financial and an AlumKnight of the school, presented an education tax credit contribution to the school. Marian Aldan-Pierce, shown here to the right of Deleon Guerrero, division president of DFS Saipan Limited and a school AlumKnight, also presented a personal donation to the school on behalf of her and her family.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Happy Holidays!
NEW ARRIVALS
Designer Ornaments – Garland, Silk Poinsettias and more...
Avoid the Holiday stress of decorating.
Fully decorated Christmas trees, garlands, swags and centerpieces available for RENT.
We decorate, deliver and set-up in your homes or offices.
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While supplies last.
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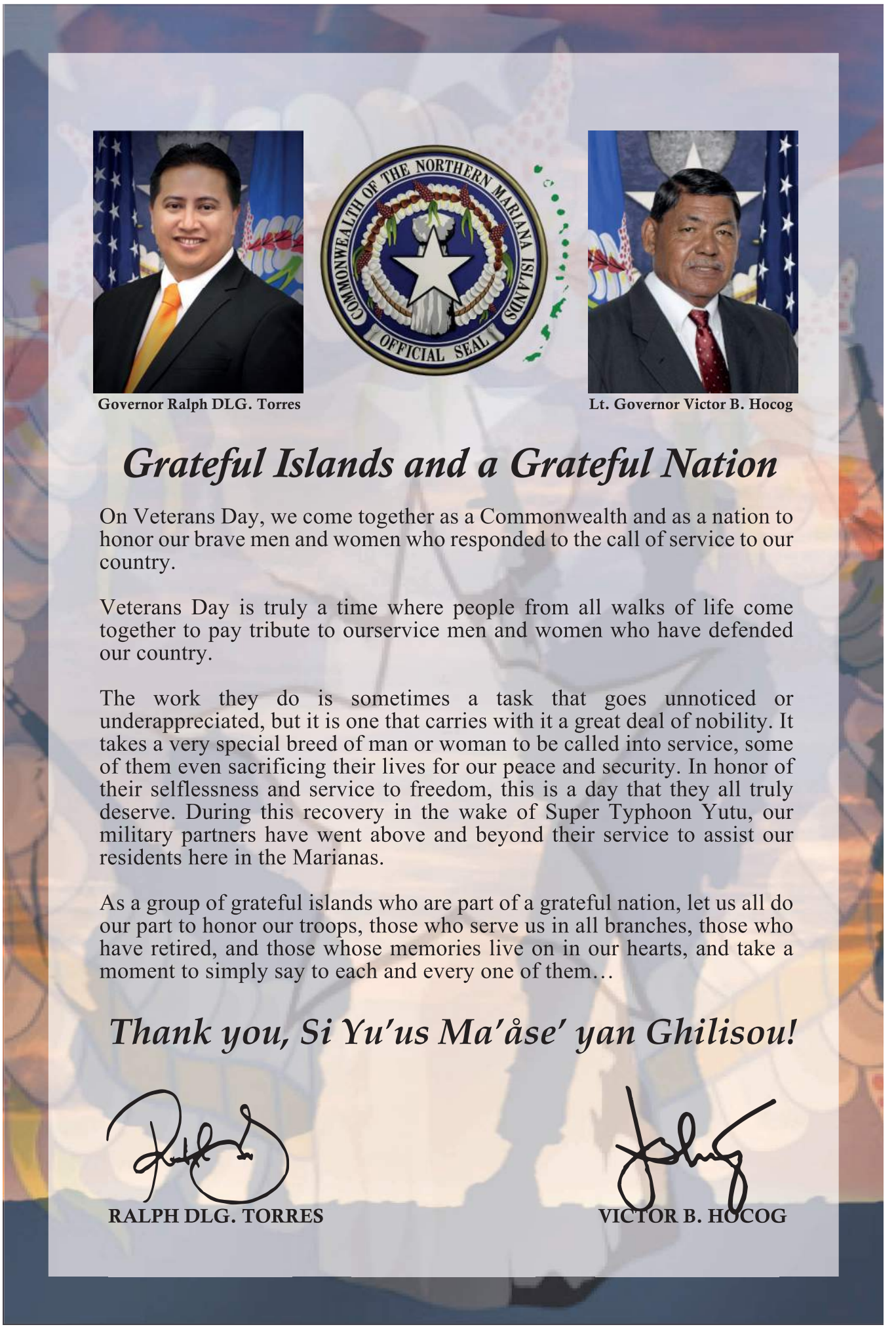
Cabrera Center, Beach Road, Garapan
For more information, please call 234-5593 or 235-8572


COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
OFFICIAL SEAL
Governor Ralph DLG. Torres
Lt. Governor Victor B. Hocog
Grateful Islands and a Grateful Nation
On Veterans Day, we come together as a Commonwealth and as a nation to honor our brave men and women who responded to the call of service to our country.
Veterans Day is truly a time where people from all walks of life come together to pay tribute to ourservice men and women who have defended our country.
The work they do is sometimes a task that goes unnoticed or underappreciated, but it is one that carries with it a great deal of nobility. It takes a very special breed of man or woman to be called into service, some of them even sacrificing their lives for our peace and security. In honor of their selflessness and service to freedom, this is a day that they all truly deserve. During this recovery in the wake of Super Typhoon Yutu, our military partners have went above and beyond their service to assist our residents here in the Marianas.
As a group of grateful islands who are part of a grateful nation, let us all do our part to honor our troops, those who serve us in all branches, those who have retired, and those whose memories live on in our hearts, and take a moment to simply say to each and every one of them…
Thank you, Si Yu'us Ma'åse' yan Ghilisou!
RALPH DLG. TORRES
VICTOR B. HOCOG

4 local bills now law; one allots $9.5M to Saipan

On Friday, Nov. 9, 2018, Gov. Ralph DLG Torres signed into law four House local bills, one of which appropriates $9.5 million for several Saipan expenditures.

House Local Bill 20-81, S1, D4 appropriates $9.5 million from the Exclusive Gaming Annual License Fees allotted to Saipan. The bill, authored by Rep. Angel A. Demapan (R-Saipan), was passed unanimously by the Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation and becomes Saipan Local Law 20-26. The appropriations are made for the following public purposes:

■ $140,000 to the Animal Shelter under the Mayor of Saipan;

■ $80,000 for Street Numbering under the Mayor of Saipan;

■ $150,000 for a Tractor Truck under the Mayor of Saipan;

■ $130,000 for a Claw Truck under the Mayor of Saipan;

■ $75,000 to the Center for Living Independently;

■ $150,000 for the NMI Museum;

■ $60,000 to the Board of Parole;

■ $75,000 for the Micronesian Legal Services Corporation;

■ $250,000 for the CNMI Military Liaison and Veteran's Affairs Office—Hero's Safe Haven Program;

■ $250,000 for the Northern Marianas Trades Institute;

■ $100,000 for the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library;

■ $2,000,000 for the Marpi Landfill;

■ $50,000 for Karidat;

■ $40,000 for Ayuda Network Inc., - 4H Marianas;

■ $150,000 to the Legislative Bureau for the Legislative Building generator;

■ $15,000 for Pagan Watch;

■ $50,000 for Cultural Heritage Month;

■ $75,000 for the RSAT Building Renovation to the Office of Adult Probation;

■ $50,000 for Treatment Services to the Office of Adult Probation;

■ $70,000 for two new vehicles to the Office of Adult Probation;

■ $200,000 to the Saipan and Northern Islands Legislative Delegation;

■ $204,500 for Precinct I – Paving of Maguro Drive in As Perdido;

■ $79,171 for Precinct I – Paving of Tasi Lane in Dandan;

■ $190,000 for Precinct I – As Perdido Rd. – Anti Skid;

■ $170,000 for Precinct I – San Vicente Loop;

■ $80,000 for Precinct I – Atot Avenue, Chalan Piao;

■ $70,000 for Precinct I – Ahive Lane, Fina Sisu;

■ $80,000 for Precinct I – Alu Drive;

■ $161,329 for Fina Sisu Road Widening;

■ $1,035,000 for Precinct II–Construction and/or reconstruction of the Sugar Dock; renovation of social halls in Precinct II, sidewalks and ponding basins;

■ $208,500 for Precinct III – Water Drainage/Catchment System in Oleai by San Jose Church;

■ $96,500 for Precinct III – paving and beautification in front of Puerto Rico and North Marina Heights;

■ $105,000 for Precinct III – completion of Mt. Tapochau water line;

■ $10,000 for Precinct III – Bus Stop in As Falape;

■ $615,000 for Precinct III – Industrial Drive;

■ $87,000 for Aqua Culture Training for 10 individuals;

■ $213,000 for Lab Establishment;

■ $14,550 for Technical Support;

■ $242,000 for Precinct IV – to pave Egigi Drive;

■ $310,000 for Precinct IV – drainage improvement on Route 30;

■ $168,450 for Precinct IV – for the construction of a baseball field and other related facilities; and

■ $1,200,000 for Precinct V – Kagman Watershed Matching Requirement.

House Local Bill 20-75, D1 amends Saipan Local Law 19-19 to authorize the resident executive of the Indigenous Affairs Office with the expenditure authority to use the appropriated funds of $75,000 for the feasibility study and architectural and engineering design of the Indigenous Cultural Center pursuant to Article III, Section 23(b) of the CNMI Constitution in the interest of promoting indigenous culture, tradition, tourism, and the economy. Offered by Rep. Rafael S. Demapan, this bill becomes Saipan Local Law 20-27.

House Bill 20-174 ensures that the Board of Education members receive compensation for committee meetings. Board members may receive compensation for meetings attended at a rate consistent with Commonwealth law. A member who is employed by any branch of the Commonwealth government shall receive his or her regular salary under administrative leave status in lieu of compensation for meetings held during working hours. Board members may also receive administrative leave or compensation for BOE committee meetings at a rate consistent with Commonwealth law in the same manner as regular board meetings, provided that board members shall not be compensated for more than three committee meetings each month. Offered by Rep. Joseph Leepan T. Guerrero, this bill becomes Public Law 20-80.

House Bill 20-132 includes the Alcohol Beverage and Tobacco Control Division's vehicles in the definition of law enforcement vehicles to be awarded the same rights and privileges as DPS and Division of Customs vehicles in order to carry out their duties and responsibilities more efficiently. Offered by Rep. Joseph Leepan T. Guerrero, this bill becomes Public Law 20-81. ***(PR)***

$2,000 REWARD

FOR INFORMATION LEADING TO THE ARREST OR CONVICTION OF PERSONS INVOLVED IN PRETTY MARKET FIRE ON NOVEMBER 1, 2018. CALL: 287-9900

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director

EMERGENCY REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
CUC-RFP-19-007

Restoration of Electric Power Distribution System on Saipan Following Super Typhoon Yutu

The Office of the Executive Director for the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed proposals from qualified and experienced contractors to design, restore and commission (including without limitation all design, engineering, supervision, materials procurement and mobilization, installation, testing, commissioning and handover) of its power distribution system on Saipan as more fully described in the Statement of Work.

The solicitation seeks proposals from legally recognized business entities authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (or which will be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth before execution of the agreement) to restore and rebuild its electric power distribution grid on Saipan.

The RFP package consisting of the specifications and plans for the project, will be provided by email to the interested parties upon request, or may be downloaded from www.cucgov.org/procurement/available-bids-and-rfp/. Proposers must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division.

A mandatory Pre-proposal Conference and site survey will be conducted at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room 17, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Dandan, Saipan on **November 12, 2018 at 10:00 AM (ChST)**. Immediately after the conference, a site survey of the affected areas will be conducted. *Proposers shall familiarize themselves with the site conditions and do their own preliminary assessments prior to submitting the proposal.*

One (1) original and five (5) hard copies, along with an electronic copy of the proposal on a compact disk in PDF format must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked ***"CUC-RFP-19-007 : RESTORATION OF ELECTRIC POWER DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM ON SAIPAN FOLLOWING SUPER TYPHOON YUTU"*** to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, **no later than November 14, 2018 at 10:00 AM (ChST)**. Late submissions and conditional proposals will not be considered.

A Payment Bond of one hundred (100%) percent and a Performance Bond of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful Proposer. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, for the protection of all persons supplying labor and material to the contractor or its subcontractors for the performance of the work provided for in the contract.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). *Proposers are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.*

Discussions may be conducted with responsible Proposers who submit proposals determined to be reasonably susceptible of being selected for award for the purpose of clarification and to ensure full understanding of and responsiveness to solicitation requirements. Proposers shall be accorded fair and equal treatment with respect to any opportunity to discussion and revision of proposals, and such revision may be permitted after submission and prior to award for the purpose of obtaining the best and final offers. During discussions, there will be no disclosure of any information derived from proposals submitted by competing Proposers.

All Proposers are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility for any act of omission on the part of the Proposer due in whole or in part to lack of information or understanding of the proposal requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a proposal or supply under any anticipated contract. The RFP does not commit CUC to award a contract, to pay any costs incurred in the preparation of the proposal under this request, or to procure or contract for services. Proposers are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws.

All responses to this RFP should take into account any and all taxes, including without limitation any and all excise tax, which will become the obligation of the proponent awarded a contract. Successful proponents will be required to submit a copy of a valid CNMI Business license upon award of the contract. The Contractor and all subcontractors will be obligated to pay wage rates not less than the current CNMI minimum wage, prevailing through the period of contract, as indicated in the web page: https://marianaslabor.net/. The proponents shall be required to comply with all applicable CNMI and Federal Laws.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all proposals for any reason and to waive any defects in said proposal, if in its sole opinion, to do so would be in the best interest of CUC. All proposals shall become the property of CUC.

Proposers are advised that this project is being procured as an emergency procurement under the authority of the Hon. Gov. Ralph DLG Torres pursuant to 1 CMC §20144 (c) and the Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Management, and that ordinary procurement regulations do not apply. Time is of the essence in order to restore power to the people of Saipan. As such, no protests will be entertained.

GARY CAMACHO
Executive Director

COMMONWEALTH CASINO COMMISSION

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
P.O. Box 500237, Saipan, MP 96950
Tel: 1 (670) 233-1857 • Fax: 1 (670) 233-1856
Email: info@cnmicasinocommission.com

AGENDA

Pursuant to the Open Government Act, Governor Ralph DLG. Torres, and Lt. Governor Victor B. Hocog, through the Commonwealth Casino Commission ("Commission"), hereby give notice that the Commission has scheduled its regular monthly meeting on Thursday, November 15, 2018 at 10:00 a.m. at the Commonwealth Development Authority (CDA) Conference Room, first floor of the CDA Building, San Jose Village, Saipan.

The following Agenda will be discussed:

I. PRELIMINARIES:
- A. Call to Order
- B. Roll Call
- C. Adoption of Agenda
- D. Adoption of Minutes: September 24, 2018

II. REPORTS:
- A. Report by the Chairman
- B. Report by the Executive Director

III. PUBLIC COMMENTS

IV. MISCELLANEOUS MATTERS:
- A. Casino Licensee (IPI) Updates:
  1. Construction Progress and Post Typhoon Status Report – Imperial Pacific Resort & Hotel.
  2. IPI Personnel: a) Resident Employment Objectives & CLA Annual Plan; (b) Status of Work Furlough/Employee Leave; and (c) Status of the H2B Workers.
  3. Responsible Gaming Program.
  4. Compliance Committee.
  5. Other Miscellaneous Matters.
- B. Other Matters.

V. OLD BUSINESS:
- A. House Bill 20-82, HD1: Update.

VI. NEW BUSINESS:
- A. **Official Cancellation of Commission's October 30, 2018 Meeting.** Meeting Cancellation was Due to Super Typhoon Yutu and the Governor's subsequent Disaster Declaration.
- B. **Appointment** of Mr. Mark Brown as Interim Chairman of IPI effective November 1, 2018.
- C. **Notification** of Provisional Casino Key Employee ("CKE") License. Issued 11/09/18. * Mr. Phillip James Tydingco ("Phil"): IPI General Counsel - Legal Department.
- D. **Consideration and Adoption for Publication for Public Comment – Amendment to the Casino Regulations:** §175.10.1-2605 Licensure and Registration Required, Subsection (e).
- E. Recommendation for Denial of Application for a Regular Casino Service Provider:
  - Applicant: **Rypax Furniture Limited.** Principal: Mr. Dale Yu. (Provisional License Expired on 09/30/18).
- F. **Approval** for Regular Casino Vendor License – Non-Gaming (3-years):
  - **Star Link China, Limited.** Products: Sanitary Ware, Wash Basins, and Faucets (Provisional License Expired on 11/06/18).
- G. **Notification** of Provisional Casino Vendor License – Non-Gaming (1-year):
  - **AM Group, LLC.** Consulting Services (Provisional License Expires on 09/23/2019).

VII. EXECUTIVE SESSION:
- A. IPI Financial Matters
- B. Report by the CCC Audit Division
- C. Report by the Legal Counsel

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

The Commission reserves the right to amend this agenda and take action on the amended agenda pursuant to 1 CMC §9910(b). Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 13(a)(7) and Section 13(c), the Commission may vote to meet in Executive Session. In addition, the Commission may extend its official meeting for another day or more, if necessary.

/s/ Juan M. Sablan
Chairman

GOVERNOR TORRES AND CONGRESSMAN DEMAPAN WITH THE OFFICIAL CONGRESSIONAL REDLINE OF THE NMI US WORKFORCE ACT OF 2018 FROM CHAIRMAN ROB BISHOP AND THE ACTUAL PEN USED BY PRESIDENT DONALD J. TRUMP.

"I BELIEVE IN ANGEL ALDAN DEMAPAN BECAUSE OF HIS ABILITY TO WORK WITH OUR FEDERAL PARTNERS FOR OUR PEOPLE. ANGEL AND I HAVE WORKED HARD FOR THE CNMI, AND WE SEE GREAT PROGRESS. I WILL HAVE A TRUE PARTNER TO WORK WITH, AND TOGETHER THE CNMI WILL FINALLY HAVE A LOYAL AND STRONG VOICE IN WASHINGTON. PLEASE JOIN ME IN SUPPORTING ANGEL.

- GOVERNOR RALPH DLG. TORRES

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Health & Wellness

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ED CRISOSTOMO/ORANGE COUNTY REGISTER/TNS

More gyms are going mirrorless to reduce self-criticism and improve the workout

Shweta Kaul, left, and others execute an exercise at Innovative Results in Costa Mesa, Calif., on April 7, 2016. After years as the standard decor, some Southern California gyms are discarding mirrors like a sweaty towel over concern that they foster counterproductive self-criticism.

By COURTNEY PERKES
THE ORANGE COUNTY REGISTER

Kevin Levit works out in a Costa Mesa gym without any mirrors. It's a design feature that surprisingly allows him to see more clearly that he's becoming stronger and slimmer.

Instead of watching the reflection of his every move, Levit notices how his endurance has increased and how his clothes fit more loosely.

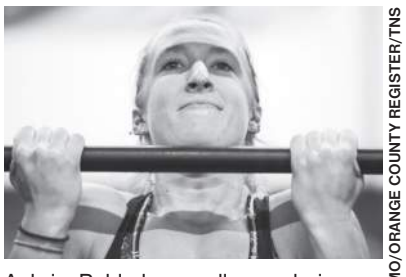
"If you see yourself every day in the mirror, you're only seeing the negative," said Levit, a 34-year-old bartender who belongs to Innovative Results. "People want to work out to feel better about themselves and you can't do that if you're always looking in the mirror and judging yourself."

Mirror-lined gym walls grew out of the 1970s bodybuilding movement, when lifters would watch themselves flex and pose. After years as the standard decor, some Southern California gyms are discarding mirrors like a sweaty towel over concern that they foster counterproductive self-criticism.

Academic studies have found that mirrors can diminish exercisers' sense of well-being and don't appreciably improve weightlifting form.

Thomas Plante, a psychology professor at Santa Clara University, published research in 2014 showing that exercising in front of a mirror increased tension levels among college students riding an indoor cycle compared with those pedaling without a mirror.

"If you're looking at yourself and thinking, 'Maybe I don't look as healthy or as fit or as good and there's somebody exercising next to me who is all glammed up or all fit,'" Plante said. "It just adds a level of stress to the average person that's just not needed."



ED CRISOSTOMO/ORANGE COUNTY REGISTER/TNS

Aubrie Pohl does pull ups during an active performance class at Innovative Results in Costa Mesa, Calif., on April 7, 2016. After years as the standard decor, some Southern California gyms are discarding mirrors like a sweaty towel over concern that they foster counterproductive self-criticism.

Plante noted that people who score high for narcissism most enjoy working out in front of the mirror.

"We live in a selfie culture," Plante said. "The fitness facilities and the gyms are going to appeal to that kind of narcissistic cultural trend.

"It also makes these facilities look bigger," he said. "If you put mirrors all around, it looks like this big, vibrant facility."

At Levit's gym, the tall walls are covered with large photos of outdoor activities such as surfing, snowboarding and hiking.

"Outdoors, there's no mirrors," said owner Aaron Guyett. "We want our clients to be able to get lost in play. When you were a kid and you played on the playground, you weren't worried about what you looked like; you weren't worried about your form."

For rare occasions when a mirror would be helpful for precise adjustments for advanced kettlebell lifts, Guyett shoots video with his phone. He said his staff reflects back to clients how they look, without the critical filters that mirrors might trigger.

"That's what we get to do as coaches, is be those loving people and say, 'You're looking good. I can tell you're feeling better because you're smiling more,'" Guyett said. "The biggest component is mindset. If people are worried about looking fat, it's really going to hurt their performance and hurt their progress mentally."

ED CRISOSTOMO/ORANGE COUNTY REGISTER/TNS

Lu Liu, right, Shweta Kaul, and others execute an exercise at Innovative Results in Costa Mesa, Calif., on April 7, 2016. After years as the standard decor, some Southern California gyms are discarding mirrors like a sweaty towel over concern that they foster counterproductive self-criticism.

ED CRISOSTOMO/ORANGE COUNTY REGISTER/TNS

Sharif Abdullah, left, and Chris Demars, right, execute an exercise during an active performance class at Innovative Results in Costa Mesa, Calif., on April 7, 2016. After years as the standard decor, some Southern California gyms are discarding mirrors like a sweaty towel over concern that they foster counterproductive self-criticism.

For Eric Doyle, owner of Long Beach Kettlebell Club, mirrors are expensive, breakable and unnecessary with proper training.

"The type of training we do is very technical and position-based," Doyle said. "You should be able to go by the feel. If it's really described and shown correctly, I feel the mirrors aren't necessary."

Even some dance studios have gone mirrorless.

At Sheila Kelley S Factor pole dancing studios in Costa Mesa, Los Angeles and Encino, Calif., the lights are dim and candles provide a warm glow. Ashley Colón, an instructor at the Costa Mesa studio, said that when women dance without seeing themselves, they can express their sensuality while removing any suggestion of a performance.

"The lack of mirrors allows you to have a little bit more permission," she said. "It takes away the idea of voyeurism, where someone is watching. You can really get intimate with your body and how it works."

Colón said mirrors also distract from the workout.

"There's something that stops you from reaching your full potential, the full stretch or exertion of your body, when you add in a mirror. If you're looking at your body from a mirror's perspective, you're not really going to tap into the deeper muscles to tone and get fit."

Life & Style

Michelle Obama had miscarriage, used IVF to conceive girls

WASHINGTON (AP)—Michelle Obama says she felt alone after a miscarriage 20 years ago and she and Barack Obama underwent fertility treatments to conceive their two daughters, according to her upcoming memoir.

In some of her most extensive public comments on her White House years, the former first lady also lets her fury fly over President Donald Trump's "bigotry and xenophobia"—dangerous, deliberate rhetoric, she wrote, that risked her family's safety.

"For this," she writes, "I'd never forgive him."

But it's her deeply personal account of her marriage to the future president that shed new light on the Ivy League-educated couple's early struggle with issues of family, ambition and public life.

"We were trying to get pregnant and it wasn't going well," Mrs. Obama, 54, writes in "Becoming," set for release Tuesday. The Associated Press purchased an early copy. "We had one pregnancy test come back positive, which caused us both to forget every worry and swoon with joy, but a couple of weeks later I had a miscarriage, which left me physically uncomfortable and cratered any optimism we felt."

The Obamas opted for IVF, one form of assisted reproduction that typically involves removing eggs from a woman, fertilizing them with sperm in a lab, and implanting the resulting embryo. It costs thousands of dollars for every "cycle," and many couples require more than one attempt.

Mrs. Obama writes of being alone to administer herself shots to help hasten the process. Her "sweet, attentive husband" was at the state legislature, "leaving me largely on my own to manipulate my reproductive system into peak efficiency," she said.

"Becoming" is one of the most anticipated political books in memory, ranking at the top of Amazon's best-sellers on Friday. That's often the case with the memoirs of former first ladies, including Hillary Clinton and Laura Bush. But Mrs. Obama defied her exalted status in the annals of history by cultivating an image of a modern woman with whom many Americans would like to sip wine and chat.

But until now, she's not extensively shared so many details. Some family struggles, such as losing a baby, are known by millions of women.

"I felt like I failed because I didn't know how common miscarriages were because we don't talk about them," the former first lady said in an interview broadcast Friday on ABC's "Good Morning America." "We sit in our own pain, thinking that somehow we're broken."

Mrs. Obama, said they underwent fertilization treatments to conceive daughters Sasha and Malia, now 17 and 20.

She also writes about falling in love. The Obamas met at the Chicago law firm Sidley Austin LLP, and Michelle was skeptical at first. But she was then impressed by his "rich, even sexy baritone" and by his "strange, stirring combination" of serenity and power.

Their first kiss set off a "toppling blast of lust, gratitude, fulfillment, wonder," she wrote.

Confronting racism in public life—being the first black first lady, wife of the nation's first black president—has been a bracing experience, in Mrs. Obama's telling. She agonized over what she feared was a cartoonish, racist image. She remembered being labeled "angry" and, by the Fox network, "Obama's Baby Mama."

FINAL RUN AP

Model Adriana Lima walks the runway during the 2018 Victoria's Secret Fashion Show at Pier 94 on Thursday, Nov. 8, 2018, in New York. An emotional Lima bowed her head in thanks and crossed her hands over her heart as she made her 18th and final runway walk in the annual holiday Victoria's Secret Fashion Show, her long white feather angel wings gently blowing as the crowd cheered.

Spice Girls add 5 shows as ticket demand skyrockets

LONDON (AP)—It seems British fans can't get enough of the soon-to-be reunited Spice Girls.

The band that peaked in the 1990s has added five shows to its planned reunion tour next year after fans complained they couldn't buy tickets.

The Spice Girls added extra gigs in London, Coventry and Manchester. The reunion tour will now begin at Etihad Stadium in Manchester on May 31.

The dates were added after tickets went on sale Saturday morning and fans struggled to get them for the existing shows. Many complained of long waits in electronic queues.

The Spice Girls will be performing without Victoria Beckham, who has launched a successful career as a fashion designer.

They last performed together during the 2012 Olympics in London.

New employee strives to keep gastric surgery under wraps

DEAR ABBY: I had bariatric surgery (gastric sleeve) five months ago. I left my previous job because the way I was treated by my employer and co-workers changed drastically after my procedure.

I am starting a new job soon and do not want to tell my new employer or co-workers that I have had this operation. People always treat you differently once they know. I don't know anyone at the new job, and I prefer to keep this part of my life private.

My boyfriend thinks I should tell at least HR, in case any medical issues arise while at work because then they would be able to inform medical personnel. I don't think they need to know. What do you think, Abby?

TREATED DIFFERENTLY

DEAR TREATED DIFFERENTLY: Your medical history is your own business. After five months you should have healed from your surgery. I'm not sure what kind of complications your boyfriend is worried about, but if you experience any, the time to report it to HR will be when they occur.

DEAR ABBY: I'm a young woman who, for years, went to my aunt and uncle's house for Thanksgiving. Every year, my aunt has made the turkey and the sides, and my uncle has done the cleanup. I appreciate their hosting every year, but I'd like to find a way to be able to help.

I have offered to clean, but my uncle insists I enjoy myself. I've brought dessert, but my aunt bakes a wonderful cake every year. I've tried to help in the kitchen, but she gently tells me to have fun. I've brought wine in previous years, but a family member struggles with drinking, so out of respect for him, I won't continue that.

I have had a lot of health issues over the years and lifelong disabilities, so it has taken me a long time to become independent. I now have my first full-time job. What's a way I could give to my family?

THANKFUL IN FLORIDA

DEAR THANKFUL: A way to do that would be to bring your hosts a lovely flowering plant when you arrive, or alternatively, send a lovely bouquet afterward with a note of thanks. And of course, you could also offer to take them out for a meal post-holiday.

DEAR ABBY: Our 9-year-old son makes perfect grades in school. His friends all have cellphones, and I believe he should get one also. My husband disagrees and thinks he should be a teenager first and learn more responsibility. With times changing so quickly and kids getting phones at 6 and 7 years old, am I wrong or is my husband old-fashioned in his approach?

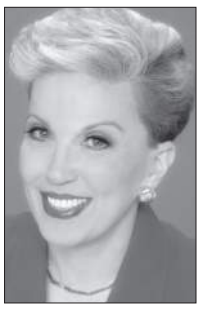
OLD-FASHIONED IN THE SOUTH

DEAR OLD-FASHIONED: Parents teach their children to be responsible by placing some responsibility on their shoulders. In the current landscape, it's a good idea for a child to have the ability to communicate with a parent in case of an emergency. You and your husband could give your son a flip phone so he can do that if necessary.

Good advice for everyone – teens to seniors – is in "The Anger in All of Us and How to Deal With It." To order, send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for $7 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Anger Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

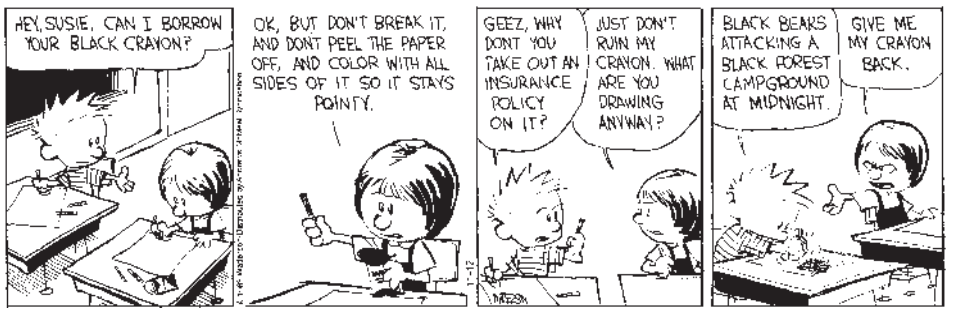


Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

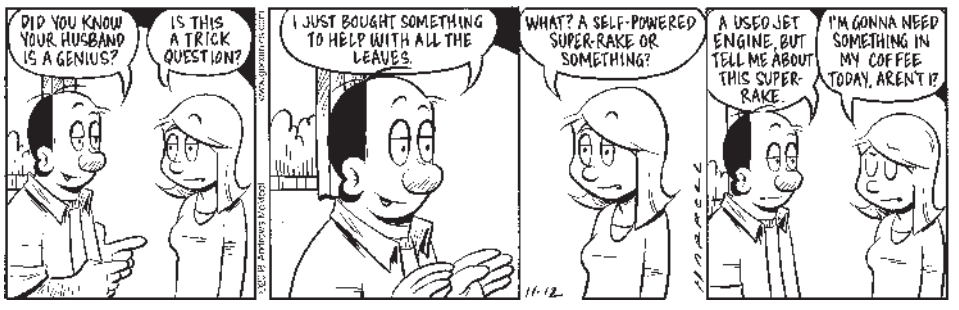

HEY, SUSIE, CAN I BORROW YOUR BLACK CRAYON?
OK, BUT DON'T BREAK IT, AND DON'T PEEL THE PAPER OFF, AND COLOR WITH ALL SIDES OF IT SO IT STAYS POINTY.
GEEZ, WHY DON'T YOU TAKE OUT AN INSURANCE POLICY ON IT?
JUST DON'T RUIN MY CRAYON. WHAT ARE YOU DRAWING ANYWAY?
BLACK BEARS ATTACKING A BLACK FOREST CAMPGROUND AT MIDNIGHT.
GIVE ME MY CRAYON BACK.

Garfield®

By Jim Davis

Adam@home

By Bryan Basset


DID YOU KNOW YOUR HUSBAND IS A GENIUS?
IS THIS A TRICK QUESTION?
I JUST BOUGHT SOMETHING TO HELP WITH ALL THE LEAVES.
WHAT? A SELF-POWERED SUPER-RAKE OR SOMETHING?
A USED JET ENGINE, BUT TELL ME ABOUT THIS SUPER-RAKE.
I'M GONNA NEED SOMETHING IN MY COFFEE TODAY, AREN'T I?

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy

DO YOU HAVE ANYTHING TO HELP ME LOSE WEIGHT?
HAVE YOU TRIED DIETING?
I'D LIKE TO TRY SOMETHING LESS DANGEROUS.
HOW IS DIETING DANGEROUS?
I ONCE BIT MY OWN THUMB BECAUSE IT LOOKED LIKE A HOT DOG.

CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Equitable
5 Pen tip
8 Ship's staff
12 Being filmed
14 Saintly ring
15 Reuben base
16 French river
17 eBay offer
18 Lion packs
20 Those opposed
23 McDonald's founder Ray
24 Ernie's pal
25 Idle time for an NFL team
28 Historic period
29 Icky
30 Singer McGraw
32 Yarn label identifiers
34 "— Karenina"
35 Car
36 Madrid museum
37 Lack
40 Enthusiast
41 Bank statement no.
42 Driver's license info
47 Persian leader
48 Noisy snakes
49 "Today" co-host Kotb
50 Hot tub
51 Owed amount

DOWN

1 Supporting
2 Whatever number
3 Decorate a cake
4 Cottontail
5 Requirement
6 Playwright Levin
7 Harmful publicity
8 Pick
9 Incursion
10 Otherwise
11 Troubles
13 Hosp. scans
19 Tiers
20 Jurist Fortas
21 Dweeb
22 Tea carrier
23 Japanese city
25 Fraternity members
26 Sicilian peak
27 Variety
29 Oversupply
31 Chinese chairman
33 Sultry singer Kitt
34 Golf's Palmer
36 Treaty
37 Sprint
38 Canyon sound
39 Military sch.
40 Greek salad cheese
43 Chatter
44 Gypsy Rose —
45 Sphere
46 Letters after Q

Solution time: 26 mins.

S	A	P		E	L	A	N		N	O	A	H
U	M	A		T	O	G	A		I	G	G	Y
P	A	M	P	H	L	E	T		T	E	E	M
		P	O	O	L			T	W	E	C	N
T	O	L	L	S		C	C	I	I			
E	R	O	S		G	A	U	N	T	L	E	T
M	A	N		B	A	R	R	Y		A	S	H
P	L	A	T	E	L	E	T		B	N	A	I
			H	F	I	D		F	O	C	U	S
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A	L	U	M		C	O	V	E	R	L	C	T
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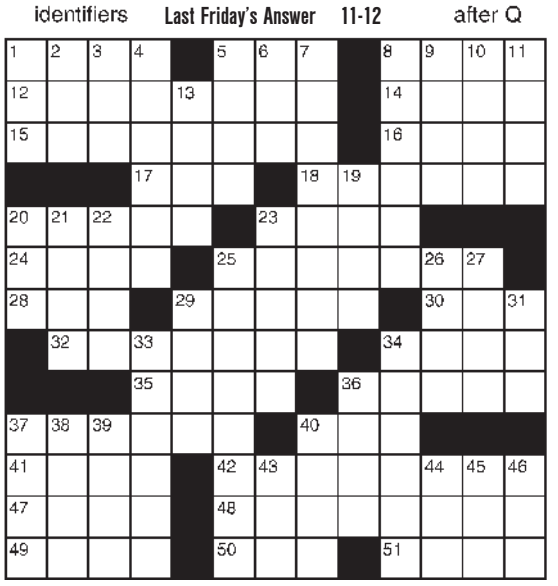
H	E	N	S		L	A	S	T		T	A	N

Last Friday's Answer 11-12



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955**! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Anne Hathaway, 36; Ryan Gosling, 38; Megan Mullally, 60; Neil Young, 73.

Happy Birthday: Take care of matters personally. Expect interference if others become aware of your private affairs. Staying in control will help you reach your goals and maintain your reputation. Someone you least expect will use manipulative tactics to enforce changes behind your back. Cover your tracks and keep detailed records. Traveling, communicating and updating your knowledge will keep you current and qualified. Your numbers are 3, 12, 19, 25, 27, 34, 47.

ARIES *(March 21-April 19):* Nurture an important relationship. An emotional matter will turn into a fiasco if you aren't willing to compromise or listen to what someone else has to say. Do your best to get along. Personal growth and improvements are encouraged. ✪✪

TAURUS *(April 20-May 20):* You'll learn through observation. Let your instincts be your guide when asked to make a choice or decision. Do what feels right, and you'll have no regrets. Past experience coupled with determination and discipline will help you excel. ✪✪✪✪✪

GEMINI *(May 21-June 20):* Stay focused on what you need to accomplish. If you let someone lead you astray, you will end up falling behind. Stay on top of your responsibilities, and question anyone offering suggestions or information that doesn't seem accurate. ✪✪✪

CANCER *(June 21-July 22):* Assess an important relationship. You'll be able to make an adjustment if you share your feelings and listen to suggestions. Taking a unique approach may be questioned, but if you are willing to compromise, an agreement can be reached. ✪✪✪

LEO *(July 23-Aug. 22):* You need a little excitement in your life. A physical or mental challenge will get you moving and motivate you to make entertaining alterations to your living arrangements. Romance is on the rise. ✪✪✪

VIRGO *(Aug. 23-Sept. 22):* Stick to the basics. Whether you are discussing plans or making promises, don't be misleading or make suggestions that you may not be able to live up to. Being direct and confident will help you come to a reasonable agreement. ✪✪✪✪✪

LIBRA *(Sept. 23-Oct. 22):* Don't let a change of plans stop you from doing your own thing. Added responsibilities should be handled fairly and evenly distributed to avoid a conflict with someone close to you. Physical activity will help you blow off steam. ✪✪

SCORPIO *(Oct. 23-Nov. 21):* Set up meetings. Face-to-face discussions will help you determine who is in your corner and who isn't. Don't let anger set in or you'll give someone the upper hand. Listen, observe and put your plans in motion. ✪✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS *(Nov. 22-Dec. 21):* Call in favors if you feel you need a helping hand. Someone you have worked with in the past will offer information or show you how to do something that will help you improve your skills or qualifications. Personal improvements are favored. ✪✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN *(Dec. 22-Jan. 19):* Don't let a last-minute change someone makes alter your plans. Adjust and move forward. Someone influential will be impressed with the way you handled the situation. Look out for your best interests, and finish what you start. ✪✪✪

AQUARIUS *(Jan. 20-Feb. 18):* Take a moment to observe what others are up to. The knowledge you gain will help you decipher how to get others to help you move forward. A change you make will lead to an opportunity that will result in financial gain. ✪✪✪

PISCES *(Feb. 19-March 20):* A discussion will leave you feeling uncertain. If you have reservations, ask questions and find out what's going on before you make a commitment or promise to anyone. Someone you have collaborated with in the past will offer insight. Abide by the rules. ✪✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are original, secretive and influential. You are powerful and ambitious.

To submit astrological questions to the "Dear Eugenia" column, visit Eugenialast.com, or join Eugenia on Twitter/Facebook/LinkedIn.

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

	6	1	9					2
2	9			4	1			
3			8			1		
9		4		1			7	
	1		7	5	3		2	
	7			9		8		6
		6			7			5
			5	6			4	8
7					4	3	6	

Difficulty Level ★ 11/12

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Last Friday's Answer

7	2	5	1	6	4	9	8	3
1	6	4	8	9	3	2	5	7
3	9	8	2	5	7	1	4	6
9	7	3	6	1	5	8	2	4
5	8	1	7	4	2	3	6	9
6	4	2	9	3	8	5	7	1
8	1	9	5	7	6	4	3	2
4	5	7	3	2	1	6	9	8
2	3	6	4	8	9	7	1	5

Difficulty Level ★★★★ 11/12

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WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the **WONDERWORD.**

SOLENOIDS Solution: 14 letters

S	U	I	D	A	R	E	T	E	M	A	I	D	L	P
T	N	R	S	M	R	O	T	C	U	D	N	I	A	O
R	I	E	T	A	R	E	P	O	P	E	N	S	R	I
E	F	S	E	G	T	E	E	H	S	E	S	C	G	N
N	O	I	E	N	E	T	M	L	A	E	D	R	E	T
G	R	S	L	E	E	O	E	R	D	Ⓝ	E	E	T	I
T	M	T	O	T	C	M	C	T	T	Ⓞ	T	T	N	N
H	D	O	C	I	T	E	H	R	O	Ⓡ	A	E	I	G
S	E	R	K	C	L	R	A	C	O	Ⓘ	L	S	M	E
C	N	G	I	E	O	O	N	O	A	V	U	W	Y	N
I	S	G	N	U	B	T	I	D	N	A	S	I	A	E
S	I	G	G	I	H	O	S	E	Z	L	N	T	L	R
Y	T	H	E	T	R	M	M	D	E	V	I	C	E	A
H	Y	R	E	G	G	I	R	T	R	E	S	H	R	T
P	D	E	P	P	A	R	W	V	O	L	T	A	G	E

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Bolt, Code, Coil, Density, Device, Diameter, Discrete, Generate, Hose, Inductor, Insulated, Integral, Iron, Length, Linear, Locking, Magnetic, Mechanism, Motor, Open, Operate, Passed Through, Physics, Pointing, Radius, Relay, Remote, Resistor, Sheet, Steel, Strength, Switch, Trigger, Uniform, Valve, Voltage, Wiring, Wrapped, Zero

Last Friday's Answer: Imagination

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IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

ALMA MORALES Petitioner, vs. REYNALDO MORALES Respondent.) FCD-DI-CIVIL ACTION NO. 18-0228

SUMMONS FOR PUBLICATION

TO THE ABOVE NAME RESPONDENT:

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and notified to file any answer you wish to make to the Complaint, a copy of which is on file with the court, within thirty (30) days after services of the Summons upon you, and to deliver or mail a copy of your answer to the Petitioner whose address is P.O. Box 505322 Saipan, MP 96950 as soon as practical after filing your answer or sending it to the Clerk of Courts for filing.

Your answer should be in writing and filed with the Clerk of this Court at P.O. Box 500307 Susupe, Saipan, MP 96950. It may be prepared for you by your counsel and sent to the Clerk of this Court by messenger or Mail. It is not necessary for you to appear personally until further notice. If you fail to file and answer in accordance with this summons, judgement by default may be taken against you for relief in the complaint.

Dated this 3rd day of October, 2018
/s/
Clerk of Court

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION
P.O. BOX 500514, Saipan, MP 96950-0514
Email: nmhc@nmhc.gov.mp
Website: http://www.nmhcgov.net

INVITATION FOR BID

(This ad is paid for by NMHC with HUD funds.)

BID SUBMISSION DATE: Tuesday, December 04, 2018
TIME: 10:00 AM

NMHC IFB 2019-002

Rehabilitation of the Tinian Youth Center

Project package will be available on **October 22, 2018,** at the NMHC Central Office in Garapan, Saipan, or the Tinian Field Office in San Jose, during regular working hours (7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.) Monday thru Friday except CNMI holidays. A non-refundable payment of one-hundred ($100.00) is required for the project package. Payment must be by cash, credit card, cashier’s check or certified check made payable to NMHC and receipt of payment must be presented in order to obtain the project package.

The provisions of the CNMI Procurement regulations, NMIAC 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 Prohibiting Gratuities, Kickbacks and Contingent Fees shall apply.

A Mandatory Pre-Bid conference will be held at **10:00 a.m.** on November 02, 2018, at the project site in San Jose (Tinian Youth Center Building), Tinian. Failure to attend the Mandatory pre-bid conference will be considered a non-responsive bidder.

For more information, contact Mr. Jacob Muna, Office Manager/Procurement Officer, at (670)234-6866/7689; (670)483-9447; or email at officemanager@nmhcgov.net during regular business hours, 7:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday, except CNMI holidays.

/s/ Benjamin K. Petersburg
Acting Chairman,
NMHC Board of Directors

/s/ Herman S. Sablan
Director
Division of Procurement & Supply

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION
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Email: nmhc@nmhc.gov.mp
Website: http://www.nmhcgov.net

INVITATION FOR BID

(This ad is paid for by NMHC with HUD funds.)

BID SUBMISSION DATE: Thursday, November 29, 2018
TIME: 09:30 AM

NMHC IFB 2019-001

Rehabilitation and Expansion of the Kagman Community Center

Project package will be available on **October 22, 2018,** at the NMHC Central Office in Garapan, Saipan, during regular working hours (7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.) Monday thru Friday except CNMI holidays. A non-refundable payment of one-hundred ($100.00) is required for the project package. Payment must be by cash, credit card, cashier’s check or certified check made payable to NMHC and receipt of payment must be presented in order to obtain the project package.

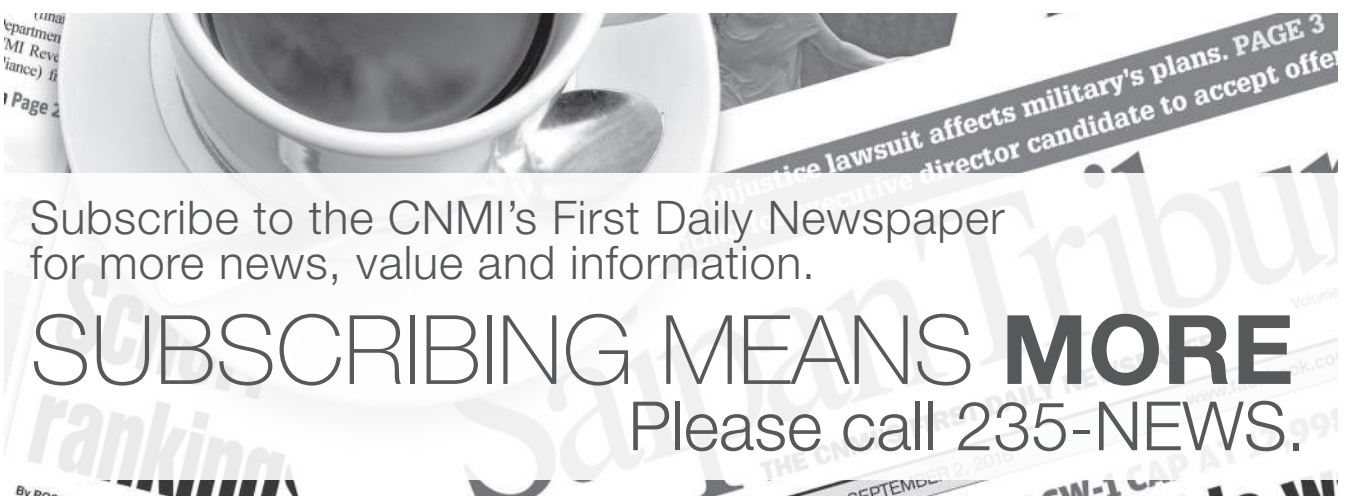
The provisions of the CNMI Procurement regulations, NMIAC 70-30.3-725 AND 70-30.3-730 Prohibiting Gratuities, Kickbacks and Contingent Fees shall apply.

A Mandatory Pre-Bid conference will be held at **9:00 a.m.** on November 13, 2018, at the project site in Kagman (Kagman Community Center). Failure to attend the Mandatory pre-bid conference will be considered a non-responsive bidder.

For more information, contact Mr. Jacob Muna, Office Manager/Procurement Officer, at (670)234-6866/7689; (670)483-9447; or email at officemanager@nmhcgov.net during regular business hours, 7:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday, except CNMI holidays.

/s/ Benjamin K. Petersburg
Acting Chairman,
NMHC Board of Directors

/s/ Herman S. Sablan
Director
Division of Procurement & Supply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Timberwolves trade Butler to 76ers

MINNESOTA (AP)—Jimmy Butler has his wish: He's out of Minnesota.

And just like that, Philadelphia has a new Big Three — one that could make serious noise in the Eastern Conference.

A person with knowledge of the situation said Saturday that Butler is being traded to the 76ers in a package that will send Dario Saric and Robert Covington to the Timberwolves. The person spoke to The Associated Press on condition of anonymity because the trade had not yet been announced by either team and was still pending NBA approval, which is not expected until Monday.

Justin Patton will also be sent to Philadelphia, and Jeryd Bayless and a 2022 second-round pick are also going to Minnesota, the person said.

The Athletic first reported the agreement.

Because the trade was not official, Sixers coach Brett Brown had little comment.

"I can't speak much about it. I'm sorry," he said before the Sixers played Memphis.

Sixers guard T.J. McConnell said he learned of the deal through social media.

"I didn't think it was true until more reports started coming out," McConnell said. "It's kind of that feeling in your stomach of just like, I mean, you can't really explain it. I was in disbelief."

Philadelphia's "Process" led it to the second round of the playoffs last season behind two of the game's youngest, brightest stars in big man Joel Embiid and point guard Ben Simmons. Butler, an elite wing player and outstanding defender, will join them in a quest to rule the Eastern Conference now that LeBron James is out West with the Los Angeles Lakers following eight straight trips to the NBA Finals with Miami and Cleveland.

AP

Minnesota Timberwolves guard Jimmy Butler, right, shoots as Los Angeles Clippers guard Patrick Beverley defends during the second half of an NBA basketball game, Monday, Nov. 5, 2018, in Los Angeles. The Clippers won, 120-109.

"I think they were a contender before," James said, giving his reaction to the deal Saturday. "So it only enhances what they're able to do. I mean, they've got Ben and Joel and now you're adding Jimmy. I think that's a very, very good team."

The first order of business will be making the trade official, so Butler can debut for Philly either Monday at Miami or Wednesday at Orlando. The next step for Philadelphia will be coming to an agreement on an extension for Butler, a pending free agent who made clear to Minnesota that he would not be re-signing there in 2019.

Translated: The Wolves had to trade him, or they would lose him for nothing.

The drama has been constant from Butler's first practice with the Wolves this season, and the team's start while waiting for this inevitable move has been lousy. Minnesota finished a 0-5 road trip with a loss in Sacramento on Friday night and is 4-9 overall—winless in eight games on the road.

Butler played in 10 of those games, averaging 21.3 points. It was a peculiar arrangement; the Timberwolves were still running things through him often, even while the worst-kept secret in the NBA was that he wanted a change of address. Plenty of teams were mentioned along the way—Houston, the Los Angeles Clippers, Miami among them—as top candidates.

"I think him getting a fresh start on a team like ours will be beneficial to both sides," McConnell said.

Butler, 29, has been an All-Star in each of the last four seasons. There are also concerns, though they clearly didn't put off Philadelphia. Butler has missed at least 15 games in four of the last five seasons, including a career-high 23 games last year while dealing with a knee injury.

Philadelphia, who had just nine available players against the Grizzlies in part because of the pending move, will become Butler's third team, after Chicago and Minnesota. He's a career 16.5 point-per-game scorer, though that is skewed by his first two seasons, which were meager on the scoring front. He's on pace this season to average at least 20 points for the fifth consecutive year.

"Welcome to the best sports city in America," quarterback Carson Wentz of the Super Bowl champion Philadelphia Eagles tweeted to Butler.

Saric is in his third season and averaging 11.1 points, shooting only 36 percent. Covington had been a starter for Philadelphia for the bulk of the last four-plus seasons and is averaging 11.3 points per game this year.

Philadelphia and Minnesota don't meet until Jan. 15. Butler's return trip to Minnesota this season would be March 30, when he's sure to be showered with boos from a Target Center crowd that jeered him at the beginning of the home opener before quickly letting up.

LeBron scores 25 as Lakers top Kings

SACRAMENTO, Calif. (AP) — LeBron James scored 25 points and recently signed Tyson Chandler had 12 rebounds as the Los Angeles Lakers beat the Sacramento Kings 101-86 Saturday night.

The Lakers, who began the season with three straight losses, moved to .500 (6-6) for the first time this season by holding the Kings, who entered the game averaging 118 points per contest, to their lowest scoring total of the season.

It was only the second time Sacramento has been held below 100 points this season, and it marked the first time Los Angeles had held an opponent below 100.

James hit three 3-pointers and had seven rebounds. He only had two assists, though he often fed teammates for open shots that missed — including Lonzo Ball, who was 2 for 10 from the field.

Chandler, playing in his second game with the Lakers, logged 23 minutes and scored three points. Los Angeles has won four of its last five.

Warriors 116, Nets 100

In Oakland, Kevin Durant had 28 points and 11 assists, Quinn Cook scored a season-high 27 in place of injured Stephen Curry and the Golden State Warriors used another big run in the third quarter to pull away and beat the Brooklyn Nets 116-100 on Saturday.

Klay Thompson added 24 points on an uneven shooting night while Damian Jones had eight points and six rebounds for the Warriors.

Two days after losing Curry to a groin injury in a 23-point home loss to Milwaukee, Golden State bounced back with little problem while their leading scorer sat at home watching.

Raptors 128, Knicks 112

In Toronto, Pascal Siakam scored a career-high 23 points, Jonas Valanciunas had 19 points and 10 rebounds and the Toronto Raptors beat the New York Knicks 128-112 on Saturday, improving their NBA-leading record to 12-1.

OG Anunoby scored 16 points and Kawhi Leonard, Serge Ibaka and Delon Wright each had 12 as the Raptors won their sixth straight home meeting with the Knicks and improved to 7-0 at home this season. Toronto has won six straight overall.

Clippers 128, Bucks 126, OT

In Los Angeles, Montrezl Harrell left his diamond-studded Energizer bunny necklace at home.

But not the zest it represents. He always has plenty of that.

Harrell scored 26 points off the bench, Lou Williams hit a driving layup with .3 seconds remaining in overtime and the Los Angeles Clippers edged the Milwaukee Bucks 128-116 on Saturday.

"They're a top team in the whole league playing phenomenal basketball," Tobias Harris said. "We kept fighting and found a way."

Wizards 116, Heat 110

In Miami, John Wall scored 28 points, Jeff Green had 19 and 10 rebounds, and Washington ran away in the fourth quarter to beat Miami.

Bradley Beal and Austin Rivers each scored 18 points for the Wizards, who won for only the third time in 12 games to start the season. Rivers and Wall had 10 points apiece in the final quarter.

Washington opened the fourth on a 31-12 run, before the Heat trimmed what was as much as a 17-point deficit down considerably in the final minutes but never seriously threatened again.

Bulls 99, Cavaliers 98

In Chicago, Zach LaVine scored 24 points, rookie Ryan Arcidiacono added 15 and Chicago rebounded to beat Cleveland after blowing an early 16-point lead.

Wendell Carter Jr. also had 15 points for Chicago,

Tristan Thompson had 22 points and 12 rebounds for the league-worst Cavs.

Spurs 96, Rockets 89

In San Antonio, LaMarcus Aldridge had 27 points and 10 rebounds and Spurs held on to beat the Houston Rockets.

DeMar DeRozan had a season-low 13 points, but added 11 rebounds in 39 minutes as San Antonio snapped a two-game skid.

James Harden had 25 points to lead Houston and Eric Gordon added 23. Chris Paul was held to 13 points on 4-for-13 shooting.

Grizzlies 112, 76ers 106

In Memphis, Mike Conley scored a season-high 32 points, including 21 after halftime, as the defeated the shorthanded Philadelphia 76ers 112-106 in overtime.

Marc Gasol finished with 18 points and 12 rebounds as Memphis remained undefeated at home. Garrett Temple added 17 for the Grizzlies.

J.J. Redick led the Sixers with 20 points, while Ben Simmons finished with 18 points and 14 rebounds. T.J. McConnell had 16 points and seven assists, including a key fourth-quarter offensive burst.

Pelicans 119, Suns 99

In New Orleans, Anthony Davis had 26 points and 12 rebounds to help New Orleans beat Phoenix.

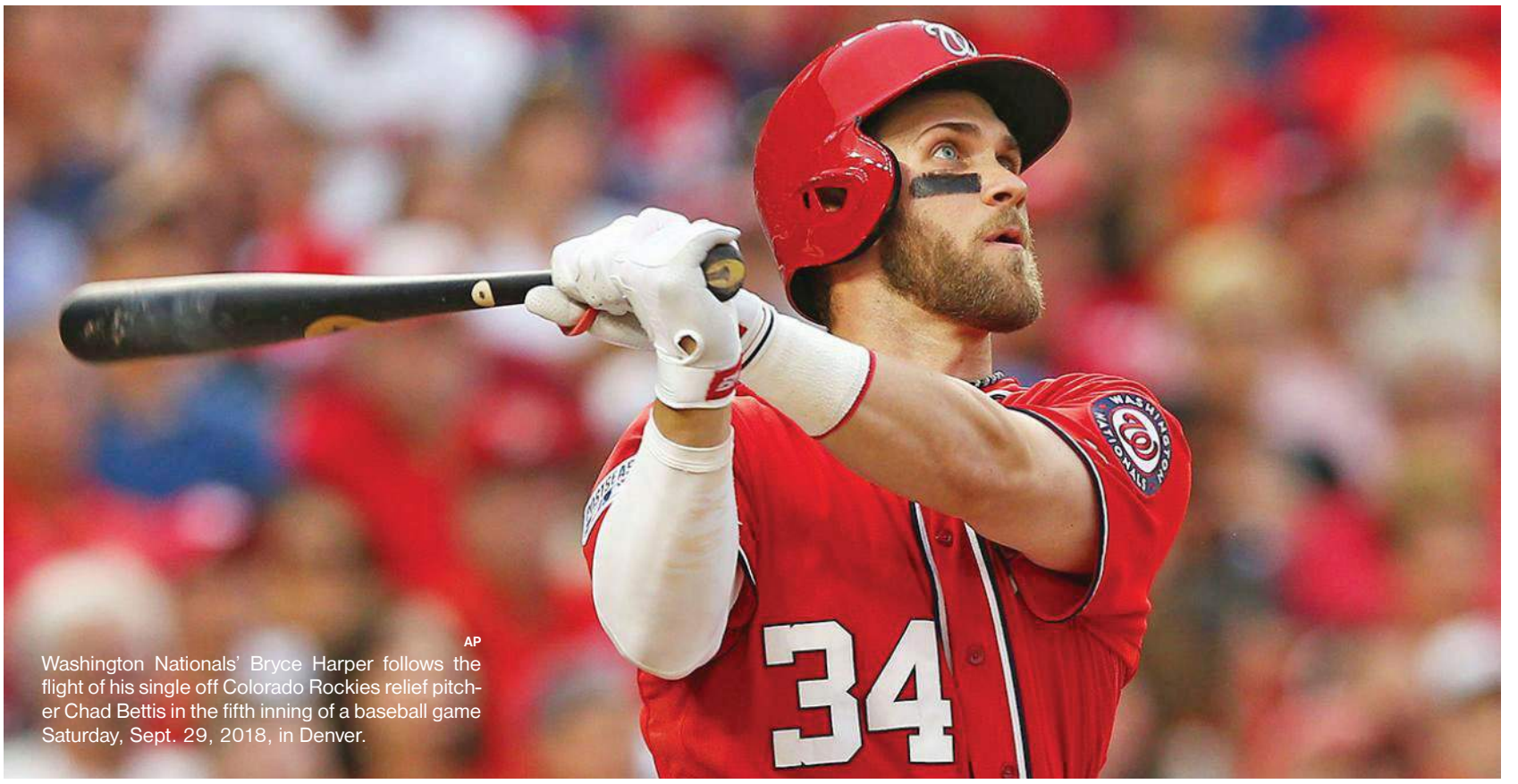
Julius Randle added 22 points and 16 rebounds, and New Orleans never trailed in winning its second straight game after a six-game losing streak. T.J. Warren led the Suns with 25 points.

Nationals' Harper nearly traded to Astros

WASHINGTON—As the 2018 MLB trade deadline approached, all eyes were on the Washington Nationals as the franchise was teetering between selling and buying. Superstar outfielder Bryce Harper's contract was up at the end of the year and plenty of teams would've been happy to bid on him for a postseason run. Instead, the team made no major moves in either direction.

Hours before the deadline passed, Washington general manager Mike Rizzo reached out to Nationals beat writer Chelsea Janes of the Washington Post to announce Harper was unavailable to other clubs. Rizzo stated emphatically that he believed in his team.

Except now we're learning that wasn't exactly the case. In a new piece from The Athletic's Ken Rosenthal, it appears one day before Rizzo's declaration that the Nationals were standing firm, Washington had a deal in place to send Harper to the Houston Astros for a package of prospects that would've helped restock the Nats' farm system. When it came time for Rizzo to get approval on trading his franchise player, Washington's ownership balked and the deal effectively died.



AP

Washington Nationals' Bryce Harper follows the flight of his single off Colorado Rockies relief pitcher Chad Bettis in the fifth inning of a baseball game Saturday, Sept. 29, 2018, in Denver.

The deal, according to Rosenthal, would've sent prospects J.B. Bukauskas, and possibly catcher Garrett Stubbs, along with two other minor leaguers to the Nationals for Harper. Bukauskas and Stubbs represent two of the Astros' top 15 prospects. The Nationals will receive just a fourth-round pick in 2019 as compensation if Harper signs with another team this offseason as a free agent.

Harper turned down a 10-year, $300 million offer to stay in Washington at the end of the season, so a return to the Nationals seems unlikely at this point.

It's important to take all of this with a large grain of salt. Deals are discussed between GMs frequently and there are plenty of good reasons why they never go further than exploratory phone calls. In Harper's case, there would've been no way to make a deal without ownership signing off, and it's hard to say why the Nationals' brass felt this wasn't the right decision.

However, it's also hard to keep an open mind about a deal like this with the benefit of hindsight. It shows that Rizzo was taking offers for Harper and it got serious enough to run it up to his bosses. After stating "I believe in this team," the Nats fell even further in the standings and ended up moving Daniel Murphy and Brandon Kintzler to the Chicago Cubs, Gio Gonzalez to the Milwaukee Brewers, Ryan Madson to the Los Angeles Dodgers and Shawn Kelley to the Oakland Athletics.

Had the Nationals chosen to sell earlier, perhaps the haul for Harper would've been more than enough to convince ownership to trade him.

At 26 years old, Harper could end up receiving a contract near $400 million in free agency. The Nationals, meanwhile, are looking for a path forward after six years with one of the best players in baseball left them with just four playoff appearances —none going further than the first round.

Meanwhile, Trevor Rosenthal could earn $30 million over two years if he becomes the Washington Nationals' closer and regularly finishes games.

Coming back from Tommy John surgery, Rosenthal finalized a one-year contract this week that guarantees him $7 million.

The deal announced last weekend includes a $6 million salary for next season and a $10 million mutual option for 2020 with a $1 million buyout to be paid if the team declines the option. There also is a $15 million conditional player option for 2020 that Rosenthal can exercise if he has 50 games pitched or 30 games finished next year.

Tiger's event in Bahamas draws top players

BAHAMAS—After facing Phil Mickelson in The Match in Las Vegas on Thanksgiving weekend, Tiger Woods will take on 17 of the best players in the world the following week in the Bahamas.

Woods, who won the Tour Championship in September to reach victory No. 80 on the PGA Tour and cap a remarkable return to golf following spinal fusion surgery, will be joined by 16 of the top 23 players in the world for the Hero World Challenge at Albany in Nassau, Bahamas.

Woods is the host of the Nov. 29-Dec. 2 tournament that benefits his TGR Foundation, as well as the Tavistock Foundation and Bahamas Youth Foundation.

Leading the 18-player field is world No. 1 Justin Rose, No. 3 Dustin Johnson, No. 4 Justin Thomas, No. 5 Bryson DeChambeau, No. 8 Jon Rahm, No. 9 Rickie Fowler and No. 10 Tommy Fleetwood. Fowler is the defending champion.

A second wave of top talent in the field is led by No. 11 Jason Day, No. 12 Xander Schauffele, No. 13 Woods and No. 15 Tony Finau.

Two-time Masters champion Bubba Watson, who is ranked No. 16, and reigning Masters champion Patrick Reed, who is No. 17, also are in the field. Reigning Players champion and No. 20 Webb Simpson, No. 21 Alex Noren and No. 23 Hideki Matsuyama round out the field for now.

Two exemptions will be announced at a later date.

In all, eight major champions are in the field.

RACE

From Page 24

"One is to get new ideas on high level training to keep things fresh and challenging for our rising juniors. My favorite speaker in this regard was Jofre Porta of Spain. He's worked with Rafael Nadal and Carlos Moya, who both managed to get the No. 1 rankings in the world. He really pushes the boundaries of conventional coaching thought and that encourages me to try new things," the CNMI Sports Hall of Famer said.

"The other coach who I felt made a big impact was Dave Miley, former director of development for the International Tennis Federation. Dave is practical and straightforward. We have very similar coaching style and he confirms my coaching methodology," Race added.

Meanwhile, with the cancelation of the 2018 TanHoldings Tennis Classic and the uncertainties on the availabilities of the tennis courts on Saipan, Race said they may have to recheck the schedule of the tournaments for the 2018-2019 season.

THOMPSON

From Page 24

"I feel very honored to have been selected to attend this swim meet. I would like to thank all the people that have supported our team," said the Grace Christian Academy student, adding that preparation for the tournament in China is different and far more challenging, as the Kan Pacific Swimming Pool is still closed.

"With the pool being closed, we have faced a few obstacles. Training in the ocean has been hard, especially with weather conditions interfering with practice," Thompson said.

The Marpi pool has been closed for over a month now and it is unlikely to be reopened soon, as the CNMI's resources are now focused on recovery efforts after Yutu hit Saipan and Tinian. However, despite having no ideal venue for training, Thompson said they are sticking to the positives.

"But training in the ocean has given us challenges that we have used for our benefit. This swim meet is different than other meets we usually attend because this is one of the biggest swim meets of the year and there are world-class athletes that will be competing," she said.

Around 1,000 athletes from 170 countries are participating in the short course meet.

"My teammates and I are excited and so thankful to be able to represent the CNMI. I hope that I swim fast and break personal bests. I would like to thank my parents for all that they have done for me, and my coach (Jacoby Winkfield) for helping me achieved this opportunity. He has taught me that it's not always about winning and there are many other important things an athlete should consider. These include being encouraging towards others, showing good sportsmanship, and having positivity," Thompson said.

CONATSU

From Page 24

ITF/OTF regional training center for about a year after receiving a scholarship. "Training has been really tough."

The world ranking is somehow a fitting farewell for Conatsu, as she will leave the training facility early next month to rejoin her family in Japan.

"My family just moved back to Japan a few months ago, so sadly I'm not going back to Saipan... I'll be going back to Japan on Dec. 4 and I will continue to play tennis there," said Kaga, who also joined swimming, running, and soccer competitions on Saipan.

"I have a goal. At the moment, some see and know that I am not a great player. I know that too, but I will improve and change that," she added.

Kaga also played in the doubles event of the Vanuatu tournament, but she and the Solomon Islands' Zorika Morgan were beaten by Cwajgenbaum and Australia's Elena Micic, 6-1, 6-4.

The competition in Vanuatu was the fifth one for Kaga this year and sixth overall. She played in the New Caledonia ITF Junior Open and BNP PARIBAS JUNIOR de Nouvelle-Caledonie in Noumea in June this year and the South Pacific Open Junior Championships, Oceania Open Junior Championships, and Oceania Closed Junior Championships in Fiji in July and August. Kaga's first ITF Juniors tournament was the Oceania Open Junior Championships in June last year, while her other singles win in the circuit was recorded in the New Caledonia ITF Junior against Japan's Maki Kakizawa, 0-6, 6-1, 6-4, in the first round of the Grade 5 event.

Timberwolves trade Butler to 76ers

PAGE 22

Saipan Tribune
Sports

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Jinju Thompson, seen here racing in a local meet early this year at the Kan Pacific Swimming Pool, will compete in the 14th FINA World Swimming Championships in China next month.

Thompson to show island strength in China

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Swimmer Jinju Thompson will be extra motivated when she represents the CNMI in the 14th FINA World Swimming Championships (25m) in China next month.

"We, as a community have been through so much lately and despite that people are showing strength and that really motivates me to do my very best," said Thompson, who was talking about the devastation that Super Typhoon Yutu left on Saipan.

"We hope that we will showcase that same strength while competing in China. We hope to make our community proud, and we will continue to pray for recovery as we race there," the Saipan Swim Club added.

Thompson, along with Lennosuke Suzuki and Nelson Batallones will be competing in the short-course meet that will take place from Dec. 11 to 16 at the Hangzhou Olympic and International Expo Center in Hangzhou, Zhejiang Province.

See THOMPSON on Page 23

Conatsu reaches milestone

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Conatsu Kaga, center, poses with her fellow Pacific Oceania players after a training session at the International Tennis Federation/ Oceania Tennis Federation facility in Fiji last week.

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
roselyn_monroyo@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The CNMI's Conatsu Kaga hit a milestone last month after making it to the ITF Juniors ranking list.

Kaga joined the elite group of junior players in the world after advancing to the quarterfinals of the Vanuatu Junior International Open held from Oct. 15 to 19 in Port Vila. The 15-year-old swept Australia's Lara Charles in the Round of 16, 6-3, 6-2, to move into the quarterfinals. In the Round of 8, Kaga was pitted against New Caledonia's Ciara Cwagenbaum and bowed to the eventual champion.

With her quarterfinals stint in the Grade 5 event, Kaga earned five ranking points and is at No. 2217 in the ranking list as of Nov. 5. The Commonwealth player started joining ITF Juniors Circuit events only in June last year.

"I am happy to finally get my first ranking," said Kaga, who has been in Fiji at the

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Race attends coaches conference

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REPORTER

Northern Mariana Islands Tennis Association official Jeff Race represented the CNMI in the 19th ITF Southern and East Asian Regional Coaches Conference held in Hong Kong late last month.

"There were both lectures and on court presentations with experts and top coaches from Europe, Asia, and Australia," said Race when asked about the highlights of the conference held at the Hong Sports Institute from Oct. 29 to 31.

Race joined 261 other coaches in the three-day conference where he picked up important points from two coaches and these would be beneficial to the CNMI tennis program.

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OCEANIA TENNIS FEDERATION

The CNMI's Jeff Race, third left, poses with fellow Oceania coaches who attended the 19th ITF Southern and East Asian Regional Coaches Conference at the Hong Kong Sports Institute from Oct. 29 to 31.